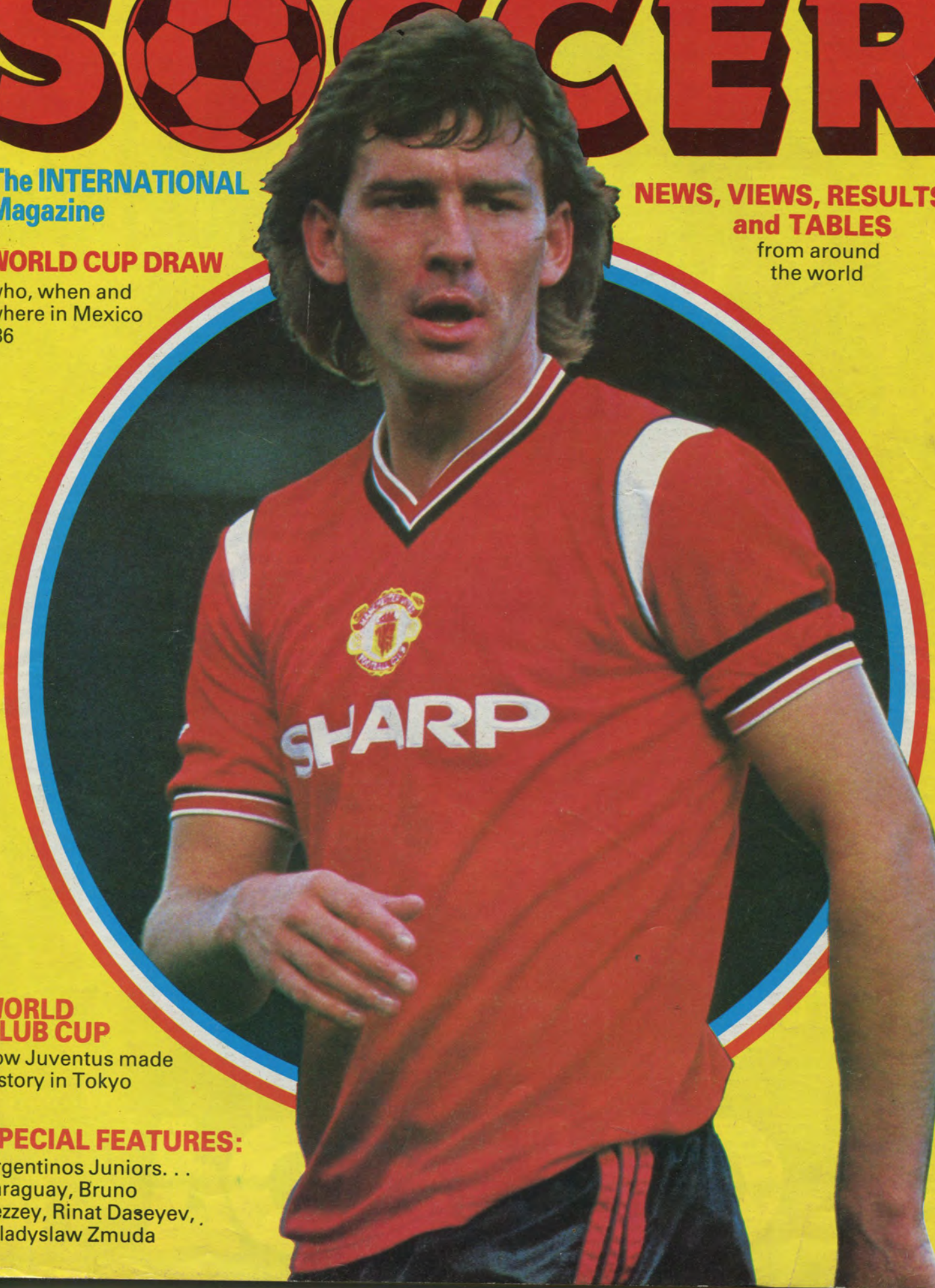
WORLD SOCCER

JANUARY 1986 90p
IR £1.45

The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

NEWS, VIEWS, RESULTS and TABLES
from around the world

WORLD CUP DRAW
who, when and where in Mexico '86



WORLD CLUB CUP
how Juventus made history in Tokyo

SPECIAL FEATURES:
Argentinos Juniors. . . Paraguay, Bruno Pezzey, Rinat Daseyev, Wladyslaw Zmuda

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IN THE run-up to the World Cup finals in Mexico there is only one magazine to keep you in touch with the preparations and the personalities . . . WORLD SOCCER.

IT'S THE magazine which sorts out for you (on this page) the Mexico fixture confusion . . . brings you exclusive news of a World Cup refereeing revolution (Page 7) . . . reaction from all the top names on the draw itself (Pages 4 and 5) . . . and why Pele's famous grin is less in evidence nowadays (Page 6).

ALL THIS AND MORE . . . such as a special report from Tokyo on how European champions Juventus made football history (Pages 10 and 11).

* * *

DON'T FORGET . . . for all you need to know about Mexico '86, be a World Cup Winner only with WORLD SOCCER!

Sorting out the Cup confusion

WORLD CUP confusion reigned after the draw in Mexico City for the finals of the 1986 World Cup.

Players, officials and media were all agreed that Group E — featuring Uruguay, West Germany, Scotland and Denmark — is the toughest, and that England got off comparatively lightly in Group F, where they face Portugal, Poland and Morocco.

Even manager Bobby Robson had to admit that, after all his fears about the heat and 'low' altitude of Monterrey, playing there was a better prospect than Scotland's group.

COVER PICTURE . . . this month is Bryan Robson, riding on the crest of a wave as captain of both World Cup finalists England and first division leaders Manchester United.

From PETER CHAPMAN in Mexico City

However, one issue remained confused. All the early reports coming out of Mexico, and fixture schedules sent around the world by the international agencies, failed to note venue switches affecting groups D and F.

Although all the Group D games are set for Guadalajara's two stadia — the Third of March and the Jalisco — the June 12 fixture between Spain and Algeria will be staged in the Tecnologico stadium up in . . . Monterrey.

Similarly, though Group F is played in Monterrey's Universitario and Tecnologico stadia, the June 11 match between Morocco and Portugal is being sent to the Third of March venue in Guadalajara.

The reason for these apparently unnecessary and financially wasteful excursions is to prevent a repetition of the West Germany v Austria fix which scarred the game's image in Spain in 1982.

FIFA has decided that the last pair of matches in each group must be played simultaneously.

This is fine for the two-city groups such as Group A (Puebla and Mexico City, Group B (Mexico City and Toluca), Group C (Leon and Irapuato) and Group E (Queretaro and Neza). However, single-city Groups D and F could not, it was decided, cope with two matches at the same time at separate stadia. Hence the travelling involved — and the confusion among the world's media which — following, it must be admitted — earlier FIFA schedules — fell right into the trap.

After all the bad publicity surrounding the need, for European television, to play some matches in the midday heat it's odd to see the disparity between group kick-off times. For example, all the matches in Mexico's own Group B (Aztec and Toluca) kick off at midday local time, as do the matches in Brazil's Group D. But all the matches in Monterrey's Group F (including the Guadalajara switch game) start at four in the afternoon.

Note also that this time there is no round-robin second round. Once the first round groups are completed it's straight into direct elimination knock-out — and that should certainly step up the dramatic content.

As far as Mexico's staging preparations are concerned there still appear to be areas of doubt. International telecommunications specialists suggest that preparations to beam the games to the outside world have long since been lagging behind. The situation has been much complicated by the earthquakes, which sliced their way through Mexico City's main

● *Continued on page 46*

REAL MADRID hit the old glory trail in a style even they had never matched before when they came back from the precipice to knock Borussia Mönchengladbach out of the UEFA Cup.

Madrid, Cup-holders, had crashed 5-1 in the first leg before a 62,000 crowd in Düsseldorf, had Rafael Gordillo sent off into the bargain as well as collecting bookings which ruled defender Manuel Sanchis and top-scorer Hugo Sanchez out of the return.

Coach Luis Molowny said: "We will need a miracle. But we will do what we can."

A capacity 95,000 turned up at the Estadio Bernabeu perhaps sensing the rarefied air of a great European occasion.

Madrid recalled veterans Juanito and Carlos Santillana and were not disappointed. Argentina's 1982 World Cup striker Jorge Valdano scored twice in the first half and then Santillana forced home two in the second half.

Santillana's second came just 20 seconds from time, brought Madrid level on aggregate and sent them into the quarter-finals thanks to Gordillo's away goal.

Elsewhere in the UEFA Cup Waregem were surprising 2-1 winners away to a Hateley-less Milan while Dundee United went out to a controversial goal against Neuchatel Xamax in Switzerland.

The Scots won 2-1 at home and went further ahead with a goal early on in Switzerland thanks to Ian Redford. However, Danish forward Carsten Nielsen pulled Xamax level in the match and Heinz Hermann shot them level on aggregate and sent the tie into extra time. Now Nielsen struck again but television evidence cast doubt over whether his shot crossed the line as defenders scrambled to clear a rebound off the underside of the bar.

There was double disappointment for the Soviet Union, with Spartak Moscow and Dnepr going out respectively to Nantes and Hajduk Split. Another Eastern bloc failure was registered by Legia Warsaw. Having achieved the hardest part by drawing 0-0 in Italy against Internazionale, they went down 1-0 at home.

Goals in both away and home legs from former Arsenal forward Raphael Meade saw Sporting Lisbon to a 1-2, 3-0 win over Bilbao. Köln also lost their first leg by 2-1 — away to Hammarby — but recovered to beat the Swedes easily at home.

WORLD SOCCER
The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

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VOL 26 No 4
January 1986

WORLD SOCCER (incorporating SOCCER STAR) is published monthly by Webster's Publications Ltd, Onslow House, 60-66 Saffron Hill, London, EC1N 8AY. Situated at this address are the magazine's Editorial, Advertising and Publishing offices. Printed by The Chesham Press Ltd, Chesham, Buckinghamshire. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper.

MEXICO86

What when

ALL TIMES IN GMT

GROUP A (in Puebla and Mexico City)
MAY 31 (Aztec Stadium, Mexico City): Italy v Bulgaria (1800).
JUNE 2 (Olimpico, Mexico City): Argentina v South Korea (1800).
JUNE 5 (Puebla): Italy v Argentina (1800).
JUNE 5 (Olimpico): Bulgaria v South Korea (2200).
JUNE 10 (Puebla): Italy v South Korea (1800).
JUNE 10 (Olimpico): Bulgaria v Argentina (1800).

GROUP B (Aztec): Mexico City and Toluca)
JUNE 3 (Aztec): Mexico v Belgium (1800).
JUNE 4 (Toluca)(Paraguay v Iraq (1800).
JUNE 7 (Aztec): Mexico v Paraguay (1800).
JUNE 8 (Toluca): Belgium v Iraq (1800).
JUNE 11 (Aztec): Mexico v Iraq (1800).
JUNE 11 (Toluca): Belgium v Paraguay (1800).

GROUP C (Leon and Irapuato)
JUNE 1 (Leon): France v Canada (2200).
JUNE 2 (Irapuato): Soviet Union v Hungary (1800).
JUNE 5 (Leon): France v Soviet Union (1800).
JUNE 6 (Irapuato): Canada v Hungary (1800).
JUNE 9 (Leon): France v Hungary (1800).
JUNE 9 (Irapuato): Canada v Soviet Union (1800).

GROUP D (Guadalajara)
JUNE 1 (Jalisco): Brazil v Spain (1800).
JUNE 3 (Third of March): Algeria v Northern Ireland (1800).
JUNE 6 (Jalisco): Brazil v Algeria (1800).
JUNE 7 Third of March): Spain v Northern Ireland (1800).
JUNE 12 (Technologico, Monterrey): Spain v Algeria (1800).
JUNE 12 (Jalisco): Brazil v Northern Ireland (1800).

GROUP E (Queretaro and Neza)
JUNE 4 (Queretaro): West Germany v Uruguay (1800).
JUNE 4 (Neza): Scotland v Denmark (2200).
JUNE 8 (Queretaro): West Germany v Scotland (1800).
JUNE 8 (Neza): Uruguay v Denmark (2200).
JUNE 13 (Queretaro): West Germany v Denmark (1800).
JUNE 13 (Neza): Uruguay v Scotland (1800).

GROUP F (Monterrey)
JUNE 2 (Universitario): Poland v Morocco (2200).
JUNE 3 (Tecnologico): Portugal v England (2200).
JUNE 6 (Tecnologico): Morocco v England (2200).
JUNE 7 (Universitario): Poland v Portugal (2200).
JUNE 11 (Universitario) Poland v England (2200).
JUNE 11 (Third of March, Guadalajara): Morocco v Portugal (2200).

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Italy and Argentina meet again

From JONATHAN SHALLARD

THE DRAW for the finals of the 1986 World Cup in Mexico achieved a remarkable rematch: holders Italy face 1978 winners Argentina for the fourth successive time.

These two world powers met in 1974 in West Germany (a 1-1 draw), in 1978 in Argentina (1-0 to Italy) and in 1982 in Spain (2-1 to Italy).

Argentina boss Carlos Bilardo said: "I think we are going to see some great football. Bulgaria and South Korea may look weak on paper but I think we must not be misled. They have reached the finals and that is testimony to their ability and their potential."

Daniel Passarella, Argentina's 1978 World Cup-winning skipper whose appearance in Mexico is in some doubt after a row with Bilardo, was optimistic — a hint that he will soon patch up his difference with the manager. Passarella said: "I know the Italians and the Bulgarians very well now after several years playing in Europe but I do not think we have anything to fear. We can qualify for the second round, no problem."

Medaro Dias, expected to be elected shortly as new president of **Brazil's** football federation (the CBF), said he was "very happy" with the result of the draw, pitting the three-times champions against Northern Ireland, Spain and Algeria in Guadalajara.

Dias said: "I am very happy with how it turned out. This group presents no difficulties for Brazil. I see us repeating the victorious path we followed in 1970."

Similarly optimistic was Flamengo star Zico. After a leg operation he expects to be fully fit for the finals and said: "Even though we are well behind in our training schedule once we reach top form we needn't worry about our opponents."

Paolo Roberto Falcao, another star repatriated from Italy, warned: "The longer we delay in getting started, the more difficult everything becomes." But 1970 World Cup-winning boss Mario Zagalo said: "Brazil's chances are excellent. The other teams are all technically weaker."

★ WORLD CUP holders Italy will play Bulgaria in the opening match on May 31 in the Estadio Azteca in Mexico city. The doubtful privilege of playing the opening match always fell to the hosts until 1974 when the holders were handed the most unenviable geme in the finals.

Tony Waiters, former England goalkeeper who is now manager of **Canada,** could not have been happier with the draw. He said: "It's great, just great, absolutely great. I know it could be tough but it will give us a very good chance to measure ourselves against some of the strongest teams around, especially France. I think we will come out all right."

Morten Olsen, captain of **Denmark,** was saying nothing new when he commented: "I believe ours is the hardest group of all. Not much of a welcome to the World Cup finals for us."

But manager Sepp Piontek, once a West German World Cup right-back, was more positive. He said: "We know the Germans. We see them every week on television. We know their tactics and style. They play machine football."

England manager Bobby Robson landed up with the venue he didn't want, in the industrial city of Monterrey, 'down' at 1,500ft — making a nonsense of England's plans for altitude training in Denver Colorado before the finals. But once Robson had seen how the draw worked out — and the challenge England could have faced in terms of first-round opposition — he wasn't so upset.

He said: "I am happy to go to Monterrey now. When there was just ourselves and Uruguay left I knew we were in for a tough group and I was just glad they got the other section. I was pleased to miss that one, very relieved. It is a good draw for us in terms of the teams we have got and we will not have to be the ones who move to Guadalajara for one of the matches.

"We need heat acclimatisation and we will be staying at Saltillo about one hour away from Monterrey, although we will do our training in Monterrey."

Robson will now have to win over the locals following his complaints about the inclusion of Monterrey in the list of venues. His reservations were understandable though, for it is over 5,000ft lower than the other venues and a good 10 to 15 degrees hotter.

England midfielder Ray Wilkins warned about the danger to be provided by Poland's Roma star striker, Zbigniew Boniek.

"He is playing exceptionally well at the moment," said Wilkins, a regular opponent with Milan. "He will be a player to watch in any company and I was impressed when I saw Poland beat Italy on TV recently. They have skilful players and will be prepared prefectly for the finals.

"It's a good draw for us, though, and if we get the right preparation I see no reason why we should not go through."

★ IF England win their group and Scotland finish second in theirs then international football's oldest rivals will find themselves meeting in the Estadio Olimpico 68 in Mexico City in the second round with a place in the quarter-finals at stake.

ENGLAND know their fate . . . as FIFA secretary-general Sepp Blatter shows the world during the draw for the finals in Mexico City.

Central defender Terry Butcher picked out Boniek, too, as the Pole to watch. Butcher said: "I played against him when he was with Widzew Lodz, and Ipswich met them in a European game. He was just starting to make a name then, and you could see he was a top-class striker."

Butcher also picked out Portugal as a danger. He said: "They have built a useful team over the last few seasons with some good goalscorers. They showed what they are capable of when they gave West Germany their first-ever defeat in the qualifying competition.

"Monterrey sounds very much like Bilbao, but we learned to cope with the red-hot heat there. The first game will be very important. If we can get a good start as we did in Bilbao, then hopefully the rest of the qualifying games will go just as well."

Joel Bats, goalkeeper of European champions France, had the sharpest comment on the draw after learning that they must face Canada, the Soviet Union and Hungary. Bats said: "Fortunately we are meeting them at football and not ice hockey. It's a good draw for us."

Skipper Michel Platini agreed, saying: "It could have been a lot worse and we're certainly better off than the Italians." Dominique Rocheteau thought "we shouldn't be too optimistic, but it's not bad. It's better to face the Soviet Union than England."

Manager Henri Michel said: "It's a bit of luck that we play Canada in our first match. On the other hand, the Soviets are one of the teams I have feared the most because they are improving fast. As for Hungary, they did well in the qualifying matches. We will need to keep an eye on them."

In Baghdad, reaction from **Iraq** was one of relief. The newspaper *Baghdad Observer* said: "It will be difficult but by no means impossible to reach the second round." Sports commentator Youusef Juwaideh said: "We are not afraid of Mexico, and Paraguay are among the weakest football nations in Latin America. Also, the Belgians found it very tough getting to the finals. We can beat them."

★ LATEST betting: Brazil 5-2, Argentina 11-4, Uruguay 8-1, Mexico 10-1, Italy and France 12-1, Denmark 14-1, West Germany 18-1, England, Soviet Union and Belgium all 25-1. Also: Scotland 66-1, Northern Ireland 150-1. England are evens to win their group, Scotland 14-1 and Northern Ireland 20-1.

Enzo Bearzot, manager of World Cup-holders **Italy,** is most concerned about the Argentines. He said: "On paper our group looks straightforward but the reality will be quite different. The 1982 World Cup is in the past. Today marks the start of a new adventure for our national team. The opening match against Bulgaria will be our hardest game. It's always the first game which determines the attitude of your players."

Former star Gianni Rivera, a hero in 1970 when Italy finished runners-up, was "well satisfied" but 1982 Cup-winning captain Dino Zoff warned that "the Bulgarians are powerful footballers who play a tough style and aren't too particular about the laws of the game."

Mexico's Yugoslav boss, Bora Milutinovic, was quick to play down suggestions that the hosts had been given an easy draw in the first round. The Mexican Press generally thought that the opposition of Belgium, Paraguay and Iraq was pretty comfortable. But Milutinovic — whose team beat Hungary 2-0 in Toluca on the day before the draw — said: "Paraguay are one of the best teams in South America, Belgium are a very competitive side and the problem with Iraq is that no one really knows enough about them."

Morocco were not happy at having to face Poland, Portugal and England in Monterrey. Sports Minister Abdellatif Semlali said: "That is a very unfavourable draw for us. But I'm sure our players will do their best to show the sort of progress our football has made in the 16 years since we reached the finals in Mexico before."

Northern Ireland's World Cup battlers fear they could be "sweated out" of a place in the last 16 in the hot-house of Guadalajara.

Gerry Armstrong, their hero in Spain in 1982, took one look at Group D opponents Brazil, Spain (again) and Algeria, and said: "They'll all be in their element. Altitude will be one problem, but the heat in Guadalajara is diabolical and the other three will all be used to it. Somebody's going to have to come up with something sensational for us.

"Valencia 1982 is ancient history. Our best bet seems third place to creep into the second round."

Former captain Martin O'Neill, waging a private battle to overcome knee problems, warned: "If you want a nice time and some enjoyable matches, it's a good draw for us. But if you want to make progress, it's a nasty little group — though not as

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— and where

FIVE of the 1986 World Cup cities — Mexico City, Toluca, Puebla, Leon and Guadalajara — hosted matches for the 1970 finals. Twelve stadiums will be used in the first round this time:

MEXICO CITY

Group A, with defending champions Italy, Argentina, Bulgaria and South Korea, is set in the capital's Olympic 68 Stadium, which can hold 72,000, and in Puebla. Group B (Mexico, Belgium, Iraq and Paraquay) plays in the Aztec Stadium and Toluca.

The Aztec Stadium, with a capacity of 110,000, is the site of the opening game between Italy and Bulgaria on May 21 and the Final on June 29. It is on the city's southern edge, about nine miles from the central business and hotel district. The Olympic 68 stadium, main venue of the 1968 Olympics, is also on the city's southern outskirts.

Neither stadium was damaged in the September 19 earthquake which devastated some areas and killed more than 7,000 people.

Mexico City, with a population of 18 million, is the world's largest city. It is 7,500ft about sea level and its architecture is a blend of Indian, Spanish colonial and modern influences.

Originally the Aztec capital, Tenochtitlan, the city was built on an island in a lake where the Indian empire reached a zenith in the early 16th century. Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortes captured the city on August 30, 1521, razed the architecture and built a colonial city over the ruins.

PUEBLA

Group A also plays in Puebla where the Cuauhtemoc stadium seats 46,416 people. Seventy-seven miles south-east of Mexico City it sits in a mountain valley within sight of the famous volcanoes Iztacciahuatl and Popocatepetl.

This colonial city is a centre of religious art while the modern city is an important industrial centre. Puebla is famous for its local cuisine, most notably a chicken dish with a sauce of chocolate, chilli pepper and nuts.

On May 5, 1862, the Mexicans stopped an invading French army in Puebla — an event celebrated each year as a national holiday. The French eventually took the city under siege.

TOLUCA

Toluca, where Group B plays some of its games, is the capital of the state of Mexico surrounding Mexico City. It is another rapidly expanding commercial and industrial centre 45 miles north-west of the capital on a winding, mountain highway.

Colonial buildings mark central Toluca, and the market attracts tourists seeking the region's well-known wool sweaters and other fabric goods.

Toluca is Mexico's highest city, at an altitude of almost 9,000ft. The 15,000ft extinct volcano Xinantecatl towers over the city.

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WORLD SOCCER, JANUARY 1986

MEXICO86

Why Pele is a worried man

BRAZIL are the World Cup favourites . . . without any justification KEIR RADNEDGE explains

WHEN Pele smiles, the grin takes all his admirers back to the distant days of the late 1950s, when the one word "Brazil" meant everything which was good about football.

It was a word which meant exhuberance, skill, artistry, entertainment and enjoyment; that famous grin had been witnessed by thousands upon thousands in the Solna stadium in Stockholm, in Rio de Janeiro's massive Maracana, in Lisbon, Madrid and Milan, as Pele scored goal after goal for Brazil and for his club, FC Santos.

He was an international celebrity, the most famous footballer of all time. Popular everywhere he went.

One-time coach and mentor Julio Mazzei once said: "When Pele is in Spain, the people there believe he is Spanish. When he is in England they feel he is English. Russia, Yugoslavia, Turkey, France — it's all the same. Pele is not an athlete, he is an international phenomenon."

Famous

But even international phenomenons have to come home some time to reality. Pele still flashes that famous grin, even though he's now 45. But not as often. Pele is a worried man — worried above all by that part of his life which has always meant most to him: Brazilian football.

When the draw for the finals of the World Cup, in Mexico next June, matched Brazil, former three times champions, with Northern Ireland, Spain and Algeria, Pele had to be honest.

He said: "Right now people abroad find it hard to believe me when I say we have no team manager. They cannot understand why Brazil of all people are not getting ready in plenty of time to go to Mexico.

"Of course I know, and Brazilian fans know, that Tele Santana went back to his club in Saudi Arabia after he had seen Brazil through the qualifying competition last summer. And we have presidential elections in the Brazilian football federation so until we have a new president, he cannot appoint a new manager.

"But this lack of manager is not so dependent on elections and so on in other countries. This lack of a manager shows disrespect for the Brazilian people.

"Not only that. But how will the team prepare for Mexico, how can any matches be organised for practice, how can we prepare to cope with the altitude in Mexico? It's absurd.

"It is hard to believe that Brazil, of all people, will arrive in Mexico without proper training. But that is my fear."

London bookmakers, who will accept bets on anything from a racehorse to a racing snail, make Brazil the favourites ahead of Argentina, Uruguay and hosts Mexico. But their judgment is based on history and tradition rather than the cold facts.

The truth is this:

Brazil have gone through four managers in the last two years (Carlos Alberto Parreira, Edu, Evaristo de Macedo and Tele Santana);

Brazil were held to draws at home by both Paraguay and Bolivia in their qualifying campaign;

Brazil have not played one single international match since drawing 1-1 with Bolivia at the end of the qualifying section — and that was back at the end of June, six months ago!

Brazil have won nothing since the World Cup in Mexico in 1970: they were fourth in West Germany in 1974, third in Argentina in 1978 and nowhere in Spain in 1982; in the South American championship they lost the 1983 final to Uruguay and went out in the semi-finals in both 1979 (to Paraguay) and 1975 (to Peru);

Brazil's best players are either injured or playing abroad.

The blame for the slump in Brazil's fortunes can be apportioned in various degrees:

Sport

To the continual political wrangles in the corridors of power at the CBF (the Brazilian football confederation); to the changing balance of power and interest in Brazilian sport; and to the violence on the pitch which many more enlightened coaches blame for alienating the fans.

The Sao Paulo weekly sports magazine, Placar, has surely mirrored public unrest and disenchantment over the past 18 months in the way it has changed its format. Much more space has been given in the magazine to other sports and now Placar has even stopped providing match details (line-ups, goal-scorers, crowds, etc) for matches in the once top-ranked Rio and Sao Paulo league championships.

Assuming that Placar is reflecting the tastes and interests of its readership, then football in Brazil is approaching a crisis, and one compounded by the steady talent drain of top coaches to the Middle East, attracted by lucrative contracts in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf States.

Edu, elder brother of Zico and former coach of Vasco da Gama and Flamengo of Rio as well as (briefly) the national team, is now in Iraq to help them prepare for their first-ever appearance in the World Cup finals; another World Cup boss in Mexico will be Brazilian Jose Faria, in charge of Morocco, one of two African representatives; Evaristo de Macedo has just succeeded yet another wandering Brazilian (Dino Sani) in charge of the national team set-up in Qatar.

Star players Zico and Socrates, though now back in Brazil and happy after unsettled spells in Italy (with Udinese and Fiorentina) are both injured; fellow 1982 hero Paolo Roberto Falcao can barely scrape a place with Sao Paulo now he's back from Roma; and left-back Junior and central defender Edinho are both on top of their form . . . but in Italy.

One man could weld this together — at least temporarily. He is Mario Jorge Zagalo, a man with unrivalled knowledge of what it means to be involved in a World Cup. Zagalo won a medal in 1958 as outside-left alongside Pele, and then was on the winning side in Chile again four years later. By 1970 Zagalo had retired . . . to coaching, and duly managed Brazil to victory in Mexico.

Upset

Zagalo is now 54 and has been out of work since quitting former world club champions Flamengo in July. On one occasion he turned down the offer of becoming national manager on the grounds that it would cause too much upset for his wife, Alcina, and their four children. But now Zagalo appears ready to think again.

He is also proven as the man for a crisis.

In 1970 the Brazilian federation sacked Joao Saldanha as World Cup coach a mere two months before the finals in Mexico. They turned then to Zagalo, with the most successful results, and may well want to do the same again.

But Zagalo himself knows he might upset a few people with his team selections. Talking of Zico, Socrates and Falcao he says: "It would not even be enough to use the team which won the qualifying group as a basis for the World Cup squad. But on the other hand, to bring back the old-stagers and try to win a World Cup with a team averaging 31 or 32 must be impossible."

According to a poll of Brazilian club coaches, they believe Rubens Minelli of the Porto Alegre club Gremio would be the best man to lead the national side in the World Cup finals.

Globo television said most of the 36 coaches polled felt it wrong that 53-year-old Minelli, who led Gremio to the Rio Grande do Sul state title, had never been asked to do the job.

Tele Santana steered the side through the qualifying competition. But he is not available again until after his club contract in Saudi Arabia expires in March. Anyway Santana has said he would lead Brazil in Mexico only if Giulite Coutinho remained president of the CBF — and Coutinho's term expires this month.

MEXICO86

EXCLUSIVE By ISTVAN SOMOS

THE SYSTEM for choosing the 36 World Cup finals referees is being altered — not before time — to try to improve standards in Mexico.

FIFA's referees' committee has scrapped the old, unfair formula by which each finalist nation could send only one official to the finals — even if that country possessed two or three top-class men.

Now, committee chairman Harry Cavan tells me, FIFA will "select only the best referees regardless of their country. Selection will be based mainly upon points established by the assessment of referees in international matches by FIFA referee inspectors".

The panel to decide the "squad" meets this month to choose 36 referees plus two Mexican linesmen. The allocation as regards continents is: Africa 3, Asia 3, North/Central America 3, Oceania 1, S. America 7, Europe 19.

FIFA, perhaps unwisely, have decided against the system of three-man referee/linesmen "teams" adopted with success at the 1984 European championships.

DON'T MISS next month's World Soccer to check whether you have won our competition prize of a World Cup Holiday for Two

Canada skipper is out of work

from Colin Jose

BRUCE WILSON a veteran of 48 internationals for Canada and almost certainly their World Cup captain is . . . unemployed.

A victim of the peculiar situation which exists in Canadian soccer at this time, Wilson, along with several other members of Canada's World Cup team, including key midfielder Randy Ragan, is staying in shape by training privately at Hamilton's McMaster University.

This situation has arisen because at this time Canada is without not only a national league but doesn't have a single professional team. The new national league will not start operating until next year.

Wilson and Ragan could undoubtedly find a job playing in the Major Indoor Soccer League in the United States but both feel that this is not adequate preparation for the World Cup.

However, many members of the Canadian team that will see action in Mexico next summer are playing in the MISL, thus making the job of coach Tony Waiters that much more difficult. The problem with the MISL is that its regular schedule does not end until April 6 and is then followed by the play-offs. This could mean that Waiters may not have his full team together until the beginning of May.

Currently playing in the MISL are Gerry Gray (Chicago Sting), Mike Sweeney, Chris Chueden, Pasquale DeLuca and Carl Valentine (Cleveland Force), Wes McLeod, Mark Karpun (Dallas Sidekicks), Tino Lettieri (Minnesota Strikers), Greg Ion (Los Angeles Lazers), Bob Lenarduzzi, Dave Norman and Dale Mitchell (Tacoma Stars).

In addition Ian Bridge is playing in Switzerland for La Chaux de Fonds, Terry Moore in Northern Ireland with Glentoran, Colin Miller in Scotland with Rangers, Trevor McCallum in England on trial with Spurs and Paul James soon to have a trial with Arsenal. Also West Bromwich Albion have shown an interest in goalkeeper Paul Dolan, National "B" team goalkeeper Don Ferguson was offered a contract by Luton but the Home Office refused him a work permit.

All of this means that when Waiters tries to assemble his squad to begin the World Cup countdown in January he could be left with just a handful of first-choice players. Canada faced a similar situation last year as a result of the collapse of the NASL.

Morocco profile

MOROCCO may have emerged from the "third world" hat at the draw for the World Cup finals, but they will be anything but also-rans — as England, Poland and Portugal should discover.

Team manager Jose Faria is an experienced Brazilian coach, the Moroccans gain much of their football inspiration from France, and their last appearance in the World Cup finals provided a shock for West Germany.

Faria's track record includes a successful spell as boss of top Rio club Fluminense, and work in oil-rich Qatar before he took over the top Moroccan club, FAR, in 1979. Faria took them to an unprecedented league and cup double and was the obvious choice to take over the national team.

Accent

The accent has always been on skill and technique in Morocco, and many of their best players have turned professional in France. The best, in the 1950s, was a coloured inside-forward named Larbi Ben Barek.

After Morocco achieved independence in the mid-1950s the Moroccan federation joined FIFA but many of their players still moved to France — among them current veteran national team centre-forward, Merry Krimau. Facing English opposition won't worry him: in the autumn of 1981 he was a member of the Bastis team, from French Corsica, who knocked Newcastle out of the UEFA Cup.

In 1970 Morocco reached the World Cup finals in Mexico, lost only narrowly by 2-1 to West Germany, leading 1-0 at half-time — and forced a 1-1 draw with Bulgaria.

But the present team is rated even more highly, apparently, by football-mad king, Hassan II.

In goal is the best keeper in Africa right now, in Ezaki Badou, known as Zaki. He's 26, the captain and the star personality. In eight matches in the tough African qualifying section he conceded only one goal.

Two of Morocco's top players are based in Switzerland — Lausanne's 24-year-old Mustapha El Haddaoui and Sion's 25-year-old Aziz Bouderbala — who once had a trial with Internazionale of Italy. Alongside them is the man described as the current "African Pele". He's 25-year-old Mohamed Timoumi, 25, and who has turned down offers from Spain's Malaga and Sevilla because he wants to go to France after the World Cup to follow the footsteps of his hero, Michel Platini.

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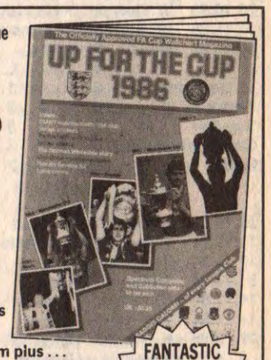

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OVERSEAS AGENTS WANTED

World Cup up-date

EUROPE

Group 1

17.10.84	Belgium — Albania	3-1
17.10.84	Poland — Greece	3-1
31.10.84	Poland — Albania	2-2
19.12.84	Greece — Belgium	0-0
22.12.84	Albania — Belgium	2-0
27. 2.85	Greece — Albania	2-0
27. 3.85	Belgium — Greece	2-0
1. 5.85	Belgium — Poland	2-0
19. 5.85	Greece — Poland	1-4
30. 5.85	Albania — Poland	0-1
11. 9.85	Poland — Belgium	0-0
30.10.85	Albania — Greece	1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Poland	6	3	2	1	10	6	8
Belgium	6	3	2	1	7	3	8
Albania	6	1	2	3	6	9	4
Greece	6	1	2	3	5	10	4

POLAND IN FINALS

Group 2

23. 5.84	Sweden — Malta	4-0
12. 9.84	Sweden — Portugal	0-1
14.10.84	Portugal — Czecho	2-1
17.10.84	W. Germany — Sweden	2-0
31.10.84	Czecho — Malta	4-0
14.11.84	Portugal — Sweden	1-3
16.12.84	Malta — W. Germany	2-3
10. 2.85	Malta — Portugal	1-3
24. 2.85	Portugal — W. Germany	1-2
27. 3.85	W. Germany — Malta	6-0
21. 4.85	Malta — Czecho	0-0
1. 5.85	Czecho — W. Germany	1-5
5. 6.85	Sweden — Czecho	2-0
25. 9.85	Sweden — W. German	2-2
25. 9.85	Czecho — Portugal	1-0
12.10.85	Portugal — Malta	3-2
16.10.85	Czecho — Sweden	2-1
16.10.85	W. Germany — Portugal	0-1
17.11.85	W. Germany — Czecho	2-2
17.11.85	Malta — Sweden	1-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
W. Germany	8	5	2	1	22	9	12
Portugal	8	5	0	3	12	10	10
Sweden	8	4	1	3	14	9	9
Czechoslovakia	8	3	2	3	11	12	8
Malta	8	0	1	7	6	25	1

Group 3

27. 5.84	Finland — N. Ireland	1-0
12. 9.84	N. Ireland — Rumania	3-2
17.10.84	England — Finland	5-0
31.10.84	Turkey — Finland	1-2
14.11.84	N. Ireland — Finland	2-1
14.11.84	Turkey — England	0-8
27. 2.85	N. Ireland — England	0-1
3. 4.85	Rumania — Turkey	3-0
1. 5.85	N. Ireland — Turkey	2-0
1. 5.85	Rumania — England	0-0
22. 5.85	Finland — England	1-1
6. 6.85	Finland — Rumania	1-1
28. 8.85	Rumania — Finland	2-0
11. 9.85	Turkey — N. Ireland	0-0
11. 9.85	England — Rumania	1-1
25. 9.85	Finland — Turkey	1-0
16.10.85	Rumania — N. Ireland	0-1
16.10.85	England — Turkey	5-0
13.11.85	England — N. Ireland	0-0
13.11.85	Turkey — Rumania	1-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	8	4	4	0	21	2	12
N. Ireland	8	4	2	2	8	5	10
Rumania	8	3	3	2	12	7	9
Finland	8	3	2	3	7	12	8
Turkey	8	0	1	7	2	24	1

ENGLAND, N. IRELAND IN FINALS

Group 4

29. 9.84	Yugoslavia — Bulgaria	0-0
13.10.84	Luxembourg — France	0-4
20.10.84	E. Germany — Yugoslavia	2-3
17.11.84	Luxembourg — E. Germany	0-5
21.11.84	France — Bulgaria	1-0
5.12.84	Bulgaria — Luxembourg	4-0
8.12.84	France — E. Germany	2-0
27. 3.85	Yugoslavia — Luxembourg	1-0
3. 4.85	Yugoslavia — France	0-0
6. 4.85	Bulgaria — E. Germany	1-0
1. 5.85	Luxembourg — Yugoslavia	0-1
2. 5.85	Bulgaria — France	2-0
18. 5.85	E. Germany — Luxembourg	3-1
1. 6.85	Bulgaria — Yugoslavia	2-1
11. 9.85	E. Germany — France	2-0
25. 9.85	Luxembourg — Bulgaria	1-3
28. 9.85	Yugoslavia — E. Germany	1-2
30.10.85	France — Luxembourg	6-0
16.11.85	France — Yugoslavia	2-0
16.11.85	E. Germany — Bulgaria	2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	8	5	1	2	15	4	11
Bulgaria	8	5	1	2	13	5	11
E. Germany	8	5	0	3	16	9	10
Yugoslavia	8	3	2	3	7	8	8
Luxembourg	8	0	0	8	2	27	0

Group 5

2. 5.84	Cyprus — Austria	1-2
26. 9.84	Hungary — Austria	3-1
17.10.84	Holland — Hungary	1-2
14.11.84	Austria — Holland	1-0
17.11.84	Cyprus — Hungary	1-2
23.12.84	Cyprus — Holland	0-1
27. 2.85	Holland — Cyprus	7-1
3. 4.85	Hungary — Cyprus	2-0
17. 4.85	Austria — Hungary	0-3
1. 5.85	Holland — Austria	1-1
14. 5.85	Austria — Cyprus	4-0
14. 5.85	Hungary — Holland	0-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hungary	6	5	0	1	12	4	10
Holland	6	3	1	2	11	5	7
Austria	6	3	1	2	9	8	7
Cyprus	6	0	0	6	3	18	0

HUNGARY IN FINALS

Group 6

12. 9.84	Rep Ireland — Sov Union	1-0
12. 9.84	Norway — Switzerland	0-1
26. 9.84	Denmark — Norway	1-0
10.10.84	Norway — Sov Union	1-1
17.10.84	Switzerland — Denmark	1-0
17.10.84	Norway — Rep Ireland	1-0
14.11.84	Denmark — Rep Ireland	3-0
17. 4.85	Switzerland — Sov Union	2-2
1. 5.85	Rep Ireland — Norway	0-0
2. 5.85	Sov Union — Switzerland	4-0
2. 6.85	Rep Ireland — Switzerland	3-0
5. 6.85	Denmark — Sov Union	4-2
11. 9.85	Switzerland — Rep Ireland	0-0
25. 9.85	Sov Union — Denmark	1-0
9.10.85	Denmark — Switzerland	0-0
16.10.85	Norway — Denmark	1-5
16.10.85	Sov Union — Rep Ireland	2-0
30.10.85	Sov Union — Norway	1-0
13.11.85	Switzerland — Norway	1-1
13.11.85	Rep Ireland — Denmark	1-4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Denmark	8	5	1	2	17	6	11
Sov Union	8	4	2	2	13	8	10
Switzerland	8	2	4	2	5	10	8
Rep Ireland	8	2	2	4	5	10	6
Norway	8	1	3	4	4	10	5

DENMARK, SOV UNION IN FINALS

Group 7

12. 9.84	Iceland — Wales	1-0
17.10.84	Spain — Wales	3-0
17.10.84	Scotland — Iceland	3-0
14.11.84	Scotland — Spain	3-1
14.11.84	Wales — Iceland	2-1
27. 2.85	Spain — Scotland	1-0
27. 3.85	Scotland — Wales	0-1
30. 4.85	Wales — Spain	3-0
28. 5.85	Iceland — Scotland	0-1
12. 6.85	Iceland — Spain	1-2
10. 9.85	Wales — Scotland	1-1
25. 9.85	Spain — Iceland	2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	6	4	0	2	9	8	8
Scotland	6	3	1	2	8	4	7
Wales	6	3	1	2	7	6	7
Iceland	6	1	0	5	4	10	2

SPAIN QUALIFY

Groups 1/5 play-off

16.10.85	Belgium — Holland	1-0
20.11.85	Holland — Belgium	2-0

BELGIUM QUALIFY on away goals 2-2 agg

20.11.85	Scotland — Australia	2-0
4.12.85	Australia — Scotland	0-0

SCOTLAND QUALIFY 2-0 on agg

CONCACAF — First round

Group 1

29. 7.84	El Salvador — Puerto Rico	5-0
5. 8.84	Puerto Rico — El Salvador	0-3

El Salvador 8-0 on aggregate

29. 9.84	Neth. Antilles — USA	0-0
6.10.84	USA — Neth. Antilles	4-0

USA 4-0 on aggregate
Canada walkover Jamaica

Group 2

15. 6.84	Panama — Honduras	0-3
24. 6.84	Honduras — Panama	1-0

Honduras 4-0 on aggregate
Costa Rica walkover Barbados

Group 3

4. 8.84	Antigua — Haiti	0-4
17. 8.84	Haiti — Antigua	1-2

Haiti 5-2 on aggregate

15. 8.84	Surinam — Guyana	1-0
29. 8.84	Guyana — Surinam	1-1

Surinam 2-1 on aggregate
Trinidad/Tobago walkover Grenada

Second round

Group 1

24. 2.85	Surinam — El Salvador	0-3
27. 2.85	El Salvador — Surinam	3-0
3. 3.85	Surinam — Honduras	1-1
6. 3.85	Honduras — Surinam	2-1
10. 3.85	El Salvador — Honduras	1-2
14. 3.85	Honduras — El Salvador	0-0

Group 3

24. 4.85	Trinidad/Tobago — Costa Rica	0-3
28. 4.85	Costa Rica — Trinidad/Tobago	1-1
15. 5.85	US — Trinidad/Tobago	2-1
19. 5.85	Trinidad/Tobago — US	0-1
26. 5.85	Costa Rica — US	1-1
31. 5.85	US — Costa Rica	0-1

Costa Rica qualify

Group 2

13. 4.85	Canada — Haiti	2-0
20. 4.85	Canada — Guatemala	2-1
26. 4.85	Haiti — Guatemala	0-1
5. 5.85	Guatemala — Canada	1-1
8. 5.85	Haiti — Canada	0-2
15. 5.85	Guatemala — Haiti	4-0

Canada qualify

Third round

11. 8.85	Costa Rica — Honduras	2-2
17. 8.85	Canada — Costa Rica	1-1
25. 8.85	Honduras — Canada	0-1
1. 9.85	Costa Rica — Canada	0-0
8 .9.85	Honduras — Costa Rica	3-1
14. 9.85	Canada — Honduras	2-1

CANADA IN FINALS

SOUTH AMERICA

Group 1

26. 5.85	Colombia — Peru	1-0
26. 5.85	Venezuela — Argentina	2-3
2. 6.85	Colombia — Argentina	1-3
2. 6.85	Venezuela — Peru	0-1
9. 6.85	Peru — Colombia	0-0
9. 6.85	Argentina — Venezuela	3-0
16. 6.85	Peru — Venezuela	4-1
16. 6.85	Argentina — Colombia	1-0
23. 6.85	Venezuela — Colombia	2-2
23. 6.85	Peru — Argentina	1-0
30. 6.85	Colombia — Venezuela	2-0
30. 6.85	Argentina — Peru	2-2

ARGENTINA IN FINALS

Group 2

3. 3.85	Ecuador — Chile	1-1
10. 3.85	Uruguay — Ecuador	2-1
17. 3.85	Chile — Ecuador	6-2
24. 3.85	Chile — Uruguay	2-0
31. 3.85	Ecuador — Uruguay	0-2
7. 4.85	Uruguay — Chile	2-1

URUGUAY IN FINALS

Group 3 (Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay)

26. 5.85	Bolivia — Paraguay	1-1
2. 6.85	Bolivia — Brazil	0-2
9. 6.85	Paraguay — Bolivia	3-0
16. 6.85	Paraguay — Brazil	0-2
23. 6.85	Brazil — Paraguay	1-1
30. 6.85	Brazil — Bolivia	1-1

BRAZIL IN FINALS

PLAY-OFF GROUP

27.10.85	Paraguay — Colombia	3-0
3.11.85	Colombia — Paraguay (A)	2-1

Paraguay 4-2 on agg

27.10.85	Chile — Peru	4-2
3.11.85	Peru — Chile (B)	0-1

Chile 5-2 on agg

10.11.85	Paraguay — Chile	3-0
17.11.85	Chile — Paraguay	

AFRICA

First round

28. 8.84	Egypt — Zimbabwe	1-0
30. 9.84	Zimbabwe — Egypt	1-1

Egypt 2-1 on agg

13.10.84	Kenya — Ethiopia	2-1
28.10.84	Ethiopia — Kenya	3-3

Kenya 5-4 on agg

15. 7.84	Mauritius — Malawi	0-1
28. 7.84	Malawi — Mauritius	4-0

Malawi 5-0 on agg

29. 7.84	Zambia — Uganda	3-0
25. 8.84	Uganda — Zambia	1-0

Zambia 3-1 on agg

13.10.84	Tanzania — Sudan	1-1
27.10.84	Sudan — Tanzania	0-0

Sudan on away goals: 1-1 agg

30. 6.84	Sierra Leone — Morocco	0-1
15. 7.84	Morocco — Sierra Leone	4-0

Morocco 5-0 on agg

28.10.84	Benin — Tunisia	0-2
11.11.84	Tunisia — Benin	4-0

Tunisia 6-0 on agg

21.10.84	Ivory Coast — Gambia	4-0
4.11.84	Gambia — Ivory Coast	3-2

Ivory Coast 6-3 on agg

20.10.84	Nigeria — Liberia	3-0
3.11.84	Liberia — Nigeria	0-1

Nigeria 4-0 on agg

1. 7.84	Angola — Senegal	1-0
15. 7.84	Senegal — Angola	1-0

Angola 4-3 pens: 1-1 agg

Second round

7. 4.85	Zambia — Cameroon	4-1
21. 4.85	Cameroon — Zambia	1-1

Zambia 5-2 on agg

10. 2.85	Guinea — Tunisia	1-0
24. 2.85	Tunisia — Guinea	2-0

Tunisia 2-1 on agg

22. 2.85	Sudan — Libya	0-0
8. 3.85	Libya — Sudan	4-0

Libya 4-0 on agg

5. 4.85	Egypt — Madagascar	1-0
21. 4.85	Madagascar — Egypt	1-0

Egypt 3-2 on pens: agg 1-1

7. 4.85	Morocco — Malawi	2-0
21. 4.85	Malawi — Morocco	0-0

Morocco 2-0 on agg

31. 3.85	Angola — Algeria	0-0
19. 4.85	Algeria — Angola	3-2

Nigeria 6-1 on agg

6. 4.85	Kenya — Nigeria	0-3
20. 4.85	Nigeria — Kenya	3-1

Nigeria 6-1 on agg

7. 4.85	Ivory Coast — Ghana	0-0
21. 4.85	Ghana — Ivory Coast	2-0

Ghana 2-0 on agg

Third Round

13. 7.85	Algeria — Zambia	2-0
28. 7.85	Zambia — Algeria	0-1

Algeria 3-0 on agg

14. 7.85	Ghana — Libya	0-0
26. 7.85	Libya — Ghana	2-0

Libya 2-0 on agg

6. 7.85	Nigeria — Tunisia	1-0
20. 7.85	Tunisia — Nigeria	2-0

Tunisia 2-1 on agg

12. 7 85	Egypt — Morocco	0-0
28. 7.85	Morocco-Egypt	2-0

Morocco 2-0 on agg

Final round

6.10.85	Morocco — Libya	3-0
18.10.85	Libya — Morocco	1-0

Morocco 3-1 on agg

6.10.85	Tunisia — Algeria	1-4
18.10.85	Algeria — Tunisia	3-0

Algeria 7-1 on agg

OCEANIA

3. 9.85	Israel — Taiwan	6-0
8. 9.85	Taiwan — Israel	0-5
21. 9.85	New Zealand — Australia	0-0
5.10.85	New Zealand — Taiwan	5-1
8.10.85	Israel — Australia	1-2
12.10.85	Taiwan — New Zealand	0-5
	(in New Zealand)	
20.10.85	Australia — Israel	1-1
23.10.85	Australia — Taiwan	7-0
26.10.85	New Zealand — Israel	3-1
27.10.85	Taiwan — Australia	0-8
	(in Australia)	
3.11.85	Australia — New Zealand	2-0
10.11.85	Israel — New Zealand	3-0

AUSTRALIA in play-off

ASIA

First round

Group 1 — Sub-Group

12. 4.85	Saudi Arabia — UAE	0-0
19. 4.85	UAE — Saudi Arabia	1-0

UAE 1-0 on agg (Oman withdrew)

Sub-Group B:

15. 3.85	Jordan — Qatar	1-0
29. 3.85	Jordan — Iraq	2-3
5. 4.85	Qatar — Iraq	3-0
12. 4.85	Qatar — Jordan	2-0
19. 4.85	Iraq — Jordan	2-0
5. 5.85	Iraq — Qatar	2-1

Iraq qual: Lebanon withdrew

Group 2

Sub-Group A:

22. 3.85	Syria — Kuwait	1-0
29. 3.85	Yemen AR — Syria	0-1
5. 4.85	Kuwait — Yemen AR	5-0
12. 4.85	Kuwait — Syria	0-0
19. 4.85	Syria — Yemen AR	3-0
26. 4.85	Yemen AR — Kuwait	1-3

Syria qualify

Sub-Group B:

29. 3.85	Yemen PDR — Bahrain	1-4
12. 4 85	Bahrain — Yemen PDR	3-3

Bahrain 7-4 on agg (Iran withdrew)

Group 3

Sub-Group A:

2. 3.85	Nepal — S. Korea	0-2
10. 3.85	Malaysia — S. Korea	1-0
16. 3.85	Nepal — Malaysia	0-0
31. 3.85	Malaysia — Nepal	5-0
6. 4.85	S. Korea — Nepal	4-0
19. 5.85	S. Korea — Malaysia	2-0

S. Korea qualify

Sub-Group B:

15. 3.85	Indonesia — Thailand	1-0
18. 3.85	Indonesia — Bangladesh	2-0
21. 3.85	Indonesia — India	2-1
23. 3.85	Thailand — Bangladesh	3-0
26. 3.85	Thailand — India	0-0
29. 3.85	Thailand — Indonesia	0-1
30. 3.85	Bangladesh — India	1-2
2. 4.85	Bangladesh — Indonesia	2-1
5. 4.85	Bangladesh — Thailand	1-0
6. 4.85	India — Indonesia	1-1
9. 4.85	India — Thailand	1-1
12. 4.85	India — Bangladesh	2-1

Indonesia qualify

Group 4

Sub-Group A:

17. 2.85	Macau — Brunei	2-0
17. 2.85	Hong Kong — China	0-0
20. 2.85	Macau — China	0-4
23. 2.85	Hong Kong — Brunei	8-0
26. 2.85	China — Brunei	8-0
1. 3.85	Brunei — China	0-4
6. 4.85	Brunei — Hong Kong	1-5
13. 4.85	Brunei — Macau	1-2
28. 4.85	Macau — Hong Kong	0-2
4. 5.85	Hong Kong — Macau	2-0
12. 5.85	China — Macau	6-0
19. 5.85	China — Hong Kong	1-2

Hong Kong qualify

Sub-Group B:

19. 1.85	Singapore — N. Korea	1-1
23. 2.85	Singapore — Japan	1-3
21. 3.85	Japan — N. Korea	1-0
30. 4.85	N. Korea — Japan	0-0
18. 5.85	Japan — Singapore	5-0
25. 5.85	N. Korea — Singapore	2-0

Japan qualify

Second round

21. 7.85	S. Korea — Indonesia	2-0
30. 7.85	Indonesia — S. Korea	1-4

S. Korea 6-1 on agg.

20. 9.85	UAE — Iraq	2-3
27. 9.85	Iraq — UAE	1-2

Iraq on away goals: 4-4 agg.

6. 9.85	Bahrain — Syria	1-1
20. 9.85	Syria — Bahrain	1-0

Syria 2-1 on agg.

11. 8.85	Japan — Hong Kong	3-0
22. 9.85	Hong Kong — Japan	1-2

Japan 5-1 on agg.

Asian play-off finals

26.10.85	Japan — South Korea	1-2
3.11.85	South Korea — Japan	1-0

S. Korea qualify 3-1 agg

15.11.85	Syria — Iraq	0-0
29.11.85	Iraq — Syria	3-1

Iraq qualify 3-1 agg

How Juventus made history

SO Michel Platini's golden star continues to shine brightly. This time it was in the East as Juventus won the World Club title in Japan, completing a unique clean-sweep of club successes with their penalty shoot-out victory over Argentinos Juniors when the score finished 2-2 after extra time.

From GERRY HARRISON in Tokyo

WORLD CLUB CUP FINAL
Tokyo — Dec. 8
Juventus 2 Platini 63 pen, Laudrup 82)
Argentinos Juniors 2 (Ereros 55, Castro 75)
HT: 0-0. **90min:** 2-2. **Att:** 62,000. **Ref:** Roth (WG).

Juventus won 4-2 on penalties after extra time. **Shoot-out scorers:** Brio, Cabrini, Serena, Platini (Juventus); Olguin, Lopez (Arg. Jun). Failures: Laudrup (Juventus); Batista, Pavoni (Arg. Jun).

Juventus: Tacconi — Favero, Brio, Scirea (Pioli 65), Cabrini — Bonini, Manfredonia, Platini — Mauro (Briaschi 77), Serena, Laudrup.

Argentinos Juniors: Vidalle — Villalba, Pavoni, Olguin, Domenech — Videla, Batista, Commisso (Corsi 86) — Castro, Borghi, Ereros (J. J. Lopez 117).

Toyota man of the match: Platini.
Previous winners: Victorino (Nacional), Zico (Flamengo), Jair (Penarol), Renato (Gremio), Percudani (Independiente).
Past winners: 1960 Real Madrid. 1961 Penarol. 1962 Santos. 1963 Santos. 1964 Internazionale. 1965 Internazionale. 1966 Penarol. 1967 Racing Club. 1968 Estudiantes. 1969 Milan. 1970 Feyenoord. 1971 Nacional. 1972 Ajax. 1973 Independiente. 1974 Atletico Madrid. 1975 no competition. 1976 Bayern Munich. 1977 Boca Juniors. 1978 no competition. 1979 Olimpia. 1980 Nacional. 1981 Flamengo. 1982 Penarol. 1983 Gremio. 1984 Independiente.

JUVENTUS skipper Antonio Cabrini (right) holds aloft the World Club Cup . . . with the sponsors' Toyota Cup still to come!

Those expecting a touch of something spectacular from the French master were not disappointed. Goalscorer, goal-maker, a brilliant effort unreasonably disallowed, a yellow card for ungentlemanly conduct, the penalty which won the title and the man-of-the-match award . . . not a bad Tokyo take-away.

But he looked genuinely embarrassed to pinch the spotlight again. Here, half a dozen individuals were outstanding as two full strength sides produced a game of excitement and drama. The national stadium pitch was little better than previous years, damaged by rugby and American football, but thankfully softened by heavy overnight rain.

The West German referee, Volker Roth, booked five players, some of the tackling was blantantly cynical and the actions of one of the linesmen, Sebastian Yap Boon Yong from Singapore, came close to turning the occasion into a disaster. Yet through all this we saw the best final yet since Toyota's sponsorship brought the game to Toyko six years ago — and the first victory for a European club.

Argentinos Juniors said they were going to attack and they did, settling much quicker than Juventus who were rattled early on. It was the graft of Bonini and Manfredonia which pulled the Italians through, with Scirea and Favero patching up a few problems at the back. By half-time they had got their act together and it was no great surprise when Serena's flick put Laudrup away soon after the break. The Argentines appealed for offside but the linesman didn't flag and Laudrup beat Vidalle confidently only for the referee to rule it out, I think, correctly.

But you can imagine the reactions of both sides, all directed at Mr Yap, with Laudrup feeling particularly aggrieved after having a good case for a penalty ignored in the first half.

The Italians, who had never totally come to terms with the speed of front men Ereros and Castro, with Cabrini looking particularly uncomfortable, were hit before they could regain their poise. A great ball through the middle from Videla let Ereros in and with one touch he knocked it over the advancing Tacconi.

Juventus, beaten only once before this game, came back strongly and it was a mistake by World Cup defender Mario Olguin which brought the equaliser. He was too far off Serena when Cabrini's long cross found the tall striker and he bundled into him clumsily. Platini's penalty seemed to give the 62,000 punters their yen's worth but there was more to come.

A poor clearance came to Platini on his chest just inside the area. With defenders closing in, he shaped to go to the right, hooked the ball the other way and volleyed it in with his left foot. An outstanding piece of skill, a superb goal . . . except that Mr Yap was waving his flag. The official verdict afterwards was that Brio or Serena of somebody was in an offside position. Unofficially, the referee was over generously giving his colleague his support.

It was a cruel decision, made more painful when Borghi's 25-yard pass put Castro clear on the right — and as Tacconi came out to close down the angle Castro skilfully floated his shot over the goalkeeper's shoulder into the net. Castro thought he had scored again after Borghi's strong run left the Argentines in a three-against-one situation but they wasted the opportunity by getting offside.

Juventus' second equaliser was a beauty. With time running out Bonini picked up another incomplete clearance, knocking it to Laudrup. He found Platini whose first time chip over the bulk of defenders left the young Dane on his own. He brushed past Vidalle to score from an acute angle. No flag this time.

In extra time both sides wilted although the tall, bearded Batista still looked a fine player in midfield. It was a pity that the following day, his 23rd birthday, he would be blaming himself for a late missed headed chance and the failure from the penalty spot in the shoot-out.

Claudio Borghi had faded a little yet he still carved out the chance in extra time for Ereros. He had certainly done enough to demonstrate why he is in the national side with his powerful runs from deep positions. Among those he impressed was Roberto Bettega, in Tokyo working for Canale 5 TV. "He looked a very good player," he said. "Very exciting. I would say he was a better player than Pasculli" (sold by Argentinos to Lecce for £500,000).

The loss of Scirea with a knee ligament injury was less of a blow to Juventus because Favero moved effectively into the sweeper's position.

IN TERMS of all-round achievement, Juventus are undisputed world No. 1.

They are the only European club to have won all the senior trophies available to them — World Club Cup, European Champions' Cup, Cup-winners' Cup, UEFA Cup, SuperCup, domestic league and cup.

Of the South Americans, restricted by the lack of extra international club prizes, only Independiente and Estudiantes of Argentina and Nacional of Uruguay have achieved a clean sweep.

To establish a modern-day World Top Ten clubs have been positioned initially according to the number of different "majors" they have won (i.e., Juventus seven, Independiente five, etc.).

When clubs are level in "majors" they have been split by the greater number of successes in tournaments in order of seniority (i.e., World Club Cup is top-rated, then the continental event, etc.).

The Inter-American Cup (between the winners of the South American Libertadores Cup and the CONCACAF Champions' Cup) has been used as an equivalent to the European SuperCup.

Pos	Club	WCC	C1 or SA Cup	Euro C2	Euro C3	Super Cup or Int-Am	Domestic league	Domestic cup or other comp
1	JUVENTUS	1985	1985	1984	1977	1984	21 — Italy	7 — Italy
2	INDEPENDIENTE	1973 1984	1964 1965 1972 1973 1974 1975 1984	—	—	1973 1974 1976	10 — Argentina	3 — Argentine nat. champ.
3	REAL MADRID	1960	1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1966	0	1985	0	20 — Spain	15 — Spain
4	BAYERN MUNICH	1976	1974 1975 1976	1967	0	0	8 — W. Germany	6 — W. Germany
5	AJAX AMSTERDAM	1972	1971 1972 1973	0	0	1972 1973	22 — Holland	9 — Holland
6	ESTUDIANTES	1968	1968 1969 1970	—	—	1969	3 — Argentina	1 — Argentina nat. champ.
7	MILAN	1969	1963 1969	1968 1973	0	0	10 — Italy	4 — Italy
8	FEYENOORD	1970	1970	0	1974	0	12 — Holland	6 — Holland
9	NACIONAL (Uru)	1971 1980	1971 1980	—	—	1972	34 — Uruguay	—
10	SANTOS	1962 1963	1962 1963	—	—	—	15 — Sao Paulo	1 — Brazil nat. champ.

And so to penalties, a recent performance for Argentinos who had been through the same nerve-racking routine in Ascuncion in the Libertadores play-off with America (Cali) of Colombia. Their intention was to use the same five players here but the doctor ruled out Borghi because of injuries. J. J. Lopez took his place.

Juventus started with Brio scoring comfortably. Then Olguin for Argentinos — no trouble (1-1); Cabrini, for some strange reason, didn't bother to check the ball on the spot, just swept it in, not particularly well (2-1). Now Batista — and Tacconi dives to the right and saves well. Serena, looking tired and battered, scores coolly (3-1). Lopez hits his straight — but Tacconi had gone to the right (3-2). Laudrup takes a long, straight run . . . too long, and Vidalle guesses easily which side it is going . . . and saves to give Argentinos some hope.

But Pavoni, experienced and cool-headed in the game, panies and hits a bad shot straight at the goalkeeper.

So it means that if Platini put his penalty in, it is all over. Not the sort of situation to worry the world's most influential player and Vidalle didn't have time even to think about a dive.

Bounce

The first reaction of the Italians, after mobbing Platini, was to bounce and chair goalkeeper Stefano Tacconi. Had the man-of-the-match award not been decided half way through the second half and selected by a wider cross section of journalists than the fifty Japanese on the panel, perhaps Tacconi might have won it because of his penalty saves?

Tacconi himself, though, would have given it to Romolo Bizzotto. Who? He's the Juventus No. 2 coach, who spies on opponents. Tacconi had seen video tapes of how Argentinos had taken penalties in the Copa Libertadores shoot-out.

Tacconi said: "Bizzotto is a great man for detail and he reminded me what they did and going to the right was what we decided. I got one of them right (Batista), but the other one (Pavoni) hit me on the knee so I can't take much credit for that."

Juventus president Giampiero Boniperti probably went too far when he said: "We beat all the odds . . . the travel, the pitch, the linesman, the referee and the champions of South America."

His players were much more circumspect, their elation muted by Scirea's knee injury which at the time looked likely to keep him out for a month. Platini wouldn't be drawn on his disallowed goal.

"Too bad," he shrugged. "We were made to suffer but got it right in the end." Both he and Laudrup paid tribute to the spirit of the Juventus side. "They hate to lose anything," said Laudrup. "The others were very nice to me when I missed that penalty but I felt awful."

"It shows quite a bit of character to come back twice like that," said Bonini, whose powerful performance was an outstanding feature of the match for me, allowing Plantini freedom to indulge himself in the luxuries of the game as well as one-way conversations with the referee.

I asked Bonini whom he would have picked as the man of the match? He said: "The choice of Platini was fair enough. I do his running for him and he sorts out the problems. It is not a bad arrangement."

JUNIORS PERFECT BLEND

by Eric Weil and Keir Radnedge

ARGENTINOS JUNIORS may have been beaten in the World Club final. But their very appearance in Tokyo was a major achievement for this small suburban club from the comparatively poor Buenos Aires district called La Paternal.

Now, as current Argentine first division and national champions and as club kings of South America, it will be fascinating to see whether they build on their success or lapse into the backwaters of the domestic game.

The club's history was featured in *World Soccer* earlier this year. Suffice it to say that, founded in 1904 as a soccer club, it took them exactly 80 years to win their first major title — the first division at the end of last year — which was quickly followed by further successes.

It had taken them "only" 70 years to strike gold however when in 1974 one of their scouts discovered, playing on waste land, a boys' team, which the club signed up complete to form a new ninth division. Among them was a 14-year-old called Diego Maradona. Two years later he became the youngest player ever to appear in the first division and was an instant star.

In 1979 they finished second in one of the two first division sections and missed qualifying for the semi-finals in a play-off because Maradona was suspended. The following year they were vice-champions to River Plate however with Maradona finishing as league top scorer on 25 goals. Of that team, which many consider the club's best up to then, only defender Domenech remains and he is the captain today.

Bigger

Maradona left at the end of 1982. the club said they could not afford to keep him and the player wanted to try his luck with a bigger team. When he was eventually transferred to Spain's Barcelona — via Argentina's Boca Juniors — the club found itself with enough money to buy a whole new team . . . and they did.

This is today's team which has gained it all the honours, although at the beginning of the current season, with the first division title already in the bag, they sold another league top scorer, Pedro Pasculli, to Italian soccer and netted more dollars.

Argentinos Juniors is today one of the very few Argentine soccer clubs not in the red and they are also building a big sports complex, although their own soccer stadium holds only 18,000 and they have to play all their championship games away in rented stadiums to accommodate the fans.

Argentinos Juniors bought wisely and did not go after big money stars, although their squad includes 1978 World Cup winner, defender Mario Olguin with 65 caps and former midfield star, J. J. Lopez with four. Both were past their best when Argentinos acquired them but they found a new lease of life with Juniors. Another is hard-working midfielder Emilio Commisso, for years with leading club River Plate, but never quite making a first team place his own, but many of their other stars such as outstanding midfielder Sergio Batista and striker Claudio Borghi — only 21 and destined to be one of the best Argentine centre-forwards in a long time — started with the club.

Argentinos Juniors plays attractive attacking soccer, preferring short passing and fighting to gain, and keep, possession of the ball which they try never to waste. The other Argentine team which plays most like them is Independiente who beat Liverpool to win the Europe-South America Cup last year. Coach José Yudica says: "All modern teams try to recuperate the ball immediately they lose it and keep possession. The difference is in what they do with it afterwards."

Staff

When the current season started, it was generally believed that the Argentinos Juniors playing staff was not strong enough to face the national championship — the final stages of which were due to be played at the same time as the first division — and also the Libertadores Cup. The belief was wrong. For most of the season, Argentinos have been playing two games (or more) a week in the three competitions — many of them vital games — which caused not only physical, but also nervous exhaustion. In fact Argentinos played some 30 games in the last three months.

What surprised everyone was the strength of the club's reserve team which was put into first division matches at least half a dozen times and won most of them. Curiously this side includes the only Panamanian and US player in Argentine soccer. Armando Dely Valdez, 20, came from Panama principally to take a coaching course and play in some lower division while he is at it. In his first division debut he scored twice and now the fans call the dark-skinned Panamanian "Pele's brother".

Renato Corsi, of Italian descent, came from the US to try his luck and moved up to the first division with the reserves on several occasions, but he also played a blinder in the Libertadores Cup final play-off against Colombia's America.

Argentinos Juniors have found a perfect blend of intelligent veterans and enthusiastic youth and they all pull together. At post-match get togethers the players all have their say and often even make suggestions to the coach which are accepted. Veteran international striker, Carlos Morete, for example, taught Borghi a lot of things and the latter has now replaced him in the first team. Borghi says Morete keeps helping him.

Problems

Argentinos Juniors have problems which, coach Yudica says, they should soon overcome. Last year they won the first division scoring easily more goals than all rivals. This year, in spite of their heavy programme — and frequently lining up reserve teams — they are second in the first division, five points behind River Plate, but with a game in hand. They have however scored only 12 goals in 15 games as rivals are going all out to stop them.

Juniors are not a rough team. In fact, they can be put off their game by rough tactics. They only had two players sent off for minor offences in 14 tough Libertadores Cup matches which were all close. They can outplay the best footballing side, but they are not always so successful against "tough" opposition.

A DUEL in Tokyo which would prove decisive . . . Juniors' Jose Luis Pavoni challenges Juventus' Michel Platini.

THE COACH

JUAN JOSE YUDICA. Born in Rosario on Dec 7, 1936, and will thus be 50 the day before the World Club Cup (birthdate is wrongly registered with the AFA as Feb 26, 1937). His grandfather was an Italian immigrant to Argentina, and his father was a porter. Yudica was a winger or inside forward and first made a name with the Rosario youth team, Evita Morning Star. They won the Evita Peron youth tournament in 1952 and, as prize, spent a fortnight watching the Helsinki Olympics. In 1953 Yudica played for Argentina at youth level and in the Pan American Games in Mexico. In 1955 he was signed by the Rosario club, Newell's Old Boys, played for Argentina's military team and was called into the senior national squad. Later played for Boca Juniors, Velez Sarsfield, Estudiantes de la Plata, Platense, Quilmes and Talleres of Cordoba before moving to Colombia and playing for Deportivo Cali before retiring at the age of 35. Immediately he turned to coaching and worked his way up the provincial circuit — San Telmo, Altos Hornos Zapla, Colon Santa Fe — before moving into the senior league with Newell's Old Boys, Quilmes, Estudiantes, Quilmes again, San Lorenzo and . . . Argentinos Juniors. Yudica took over ArgJun at the start of 1985 in succession to Roberto Marcos Saporiti, who had guided the club to the 1984 league title and then left for Atletico Junior of Colombia. Yudica said on arrival that he did not expect the directors to buy any new players for him — the squad was good enough to go on winning. And so it proved, with success in July against Velez Sarsfield in the final of the national championship (ArgJun won 1-1, 2-1).

THE PLAYERS

(with World Club Cup squad numbers)

1. ENRIQUE BERNARDO VIDALLE. Goalkeeper. Aged 33/6 caps for Argentina, the last in a 4-2 defeat by Yugoslavia in Belgrade in September, 1979. Vidalle played previously for Boca Juniors, Palestino of Chile, Gimnasia La Plata, Estudiantes and Huracan before ArgJun signed him for £45,000 in 1984 — making him their most expensive player. Vidalle won the South American Cup for ArgJun when he saved a penalty from De Avila in the spot-kick shoot-out which followed the 1-1 draw with America (Cali) in Asuncion in the Cup final play-off.

2. JOSE LUIS PAVONI. Sweeper. Aged 31. Cool-tempered, good header of the ball. Played previously for Newell's, River Plate and Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara (UAG) of Mexico. Cost £6,000 in 1983. His penalty miss proved fatal in Tokyo.

3. ADRIAN DOMENECH. Left back and club captain. Aged 31. The only player from the team who finished league runners-up to River Plate in 1980 who remains with ArgJun. Domenech joined when he was only 11 and, apart from a year's loan to Independiente in 1970, has spent 20 years with the club. Was twice sent off during the run to the 1984 league title.

4. CARMELO DANIEL VILLALBA. Right back. Aged 23. Tight marker. Signed three years ago from Chacarita Juniors for £15,000. Note that in Argentina, the rightback always wears No 4, the centre-backs Nos 3. Thus No 5 is still the old-fashioned attacking centre-half.

5. SERGIO DANIEL BATISTA. Midfield. Aged 22 — will be 23 the day after the World Club Club. Brains of the team. Only Batista and Borghi played in all 14 of ArgJun's matches in the South American Club Cup. A member of Argentina's squad at the 1983 World Youth Cup in Mexico (Argentina lost 1-0 to Brazil in the Final, but Batista was not in the team). Made his debut for the senior Argentine national team in the recent 1-1 draw with Mexico in Los Angeles — and played again in the repeat result a few days later in Puebla. Borghi also made his debut for Argentina in LA. Batista is an ArgJun youth product.

6. JORGE MARIO OLGUIN. Stopper — though he was switched to rightback by Cesar Luis Menotti in Argentina's 1978 World Cup-winning team. Aged 34/65 caps for Argentina, the last in the 2-1 defeat by Italy in Barcelona which eliminated defending champions Argentina from the 1982 World Cup finals. Won three domestic championship medals with San Lorenzo and another with Independiente before joining ArgJun for £35,000 at the start of last year. He was the club's second-top scorer with 11 goals in the 1984 league success — eight of them coming from penalties. The most important was the penalty in the last game which brought ArgJun a 1-0 win over Temperley and lifted them one point clear of Ferro Carril Oeste to the undisputed top of the table spot.

7. JOSE ANTONIO CASTRO (nicknamed 'Pepe'). Right winger. Aged 30. Back on the fringe of the national squad for the first time in six years. Imaginative, quick, good control. Formerly Velez Sarsfield and Independiente.

8. MARIO HERNAN VIDELA. Midfield. Aged 23. Played previously for Gimnasia y Esgrima of Mendoza, at the foot of the Andes, a little-known provincial team. Cost £30,000 in 1982. Dangerous with free kicks as an alternative to Olguin.

9. CLAUDIO DANIEL BORGHI. Centre forward. Aged 21/two caps for Argentina, making his debut in the recent 1-1 draw with Mexico in Los Angeles (alongside club-mate Batista). Borghi was ArgJun's top scorer in the South American Cup campaign with six goals and, with Batista, was one of only two players to appear in all 14 games. Very highly regarded in Argentina but "overrated" according to Diego Maradona. Joined ArgJun at 13, was playing in the reserves at 15 and in the first team at 17. Played only one match in the 1984 league title season but was then promoted to regular after the £500,000 sale of top scorer Pedro Pasculli to Lecce of Italy this past summer. Borghi has been called the "New Pedernera," after Adolfo Pedernera, leading light and centre forward of the great River Plate 'Maquina' of the 1940s.

10. EMILIO NICOLA COMMISSIO. Midfield. Aged 30. Played for Instituto and then Racing of Cordoba, and River Plate before joining ArgJun in 1984 for £15,000. Hard worker — but a useful occasional goal-scorer, as he proved in the South American Cup final against America Cali. Commissio scored the only goal in the first leg in Buenos Aires and Arg Jun's goal in the 1-1 draw in the play-off.

11. CARLOS ADOLFO ERERÓS. Left winger. Aged 25. Considered one of the fastest sprinters in Argentine football, capable of swinging a game single-handed. Like Castro, comes from the Andean town of Mendoza. Played for local clubs Argentino, San Martin and Independiente (Mendoza) as well as Union Santa Fe before joining ArgJun in 1983 for £30,000.

12. CESAR ROBERTO MENDOZA. Reserve goalkeeper. Will be 30 on the day of the World Cup final. Paraguayan who joined ArgJun in 1983 after spells with San Lorenzo and Talleres Cordoba.

13. JORGE CARLOS PELLEGRINI. Centre back. Aged 29. Joined ArgJun last year after spells with Rosario Central, Atletico Tucuman, Velez Sarsfield, Gimnasia y Esgrina de La Plata, Colon Santa Fe, Independiente and Loma Negra. Cost £20,000.

14. JUAN JOSE LOPEZ. Midfield. Aged 35/4 caps. One of the most popular players in Argentina and fifth in the all-time first division appearances list with more than 600 games to his credit in a 15-year career with River Plate, Talleres Cordoba, Boca Juniors and Argentinos Juniors. Was signed on a free transfer nearly two years ago from Boca but spent most of his career with River, with whom he won seven domestic titles, in first division or national championship. Nicknamed 'Jota Jota' — the articulation of his 'JJ' initials. Was used to great effect in the 1984 championship campaign as a second-half 'supersub'.

15. MIGUEL ANGEL LEMME. Midfield. Aged 32. Much-travelled, having played for San Lorenzo. Velez and Independiente as well as a string of minor Buenos Aires clubs. Cost £7,000 in 1983 from Estudiantes de La Plata.

16. INFANTINO.

17. JORGE LUIS FERRERO. Third-choice goalkeeper. Aged 25. Formerly with River Plate.

18. RENATO CORSI. Midfield. Aged 22. Only United States-born player in Argentine soccer. Father James Corsi played for Montreal in the NASL in the early 1970s. Played on the left in midfield in the South American Cup final play-off against America Cali and was ArgJun's best player.

19. ARMANDO JAVIER DELY VALDES. Forward. Aged 21. The only Panamanian in Argentine soccer. Scored two goals on his first division debut and nicknamed "Pele's brother" by the fans — more because of the colour of skin than ability. Played previously for Atletico Panama, of Panama City, and has played twice for the Panama national team.

20. PERALTA.

21. FERMIN HECTOR VALENZUELA. Fullback. Aged 20. Youth product.

22. MARTINEZ.

23. NESTOR GABRIEL LORENZO. Centre back. Aged 20. Youth product.

24. CARLOS ALBERTO MAYOR. Fullback. Aged 20. Youth product.

25. MEDINA.

Not nominated:

CARLOS MANUEL MORETE. Centre forward. Aged 33/14 caps for Argentina. Former free-scoring forward now at the end of his career after spells with River Plate, Las Palmas and Sevilla of Spain, Boca Juniors, Talleres Cordoba and Independiente. Holds a record, having achieved league title success with River Plate (1975), Boca (1980), Independiente (1983) and ArgJun (1984). Nicknamed El Puma. Selflessly gave Borghi a lot of help and encouragement. Was suspended for four months early this year for having publicly criticised Argentine football directors as "90 per cent liars or gangsters!"

HUGO MARADONA. Forward. Aged 16. Youth intl. The 'third Maradona' — Diego being the first (at Napoli) and Raul the second (a reserve with Boca Juniors). Hugo was the inspiration of Argentina's victory in the South American youth championship in April this year and played in the World Youth Cup this autumn in the Soviet Union. Like Diego, he came up through the ArgJun youth system but infuriated the club this summer when he trained in Italy at Napoli. Under Argentine law he was too young at 15 to sign pro forms for ArgJun and they feared they would miss out on a likely future transfer bonanza. After four months of negotiations with the Maradona family — during which Hugo never kicked a ball in match play — it has been agreed that Hugo remains their player but will receive 70 per cent of any future transfer fee paid for him.

THE MEN WHO MATTER

. . . a new World Soccer series on the stars likely to play a key role in the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico

by Duncan Shaw

BACK on the World Cup scene at last – and just in the nick of time for a Polish team which stumbled even while topping their qualifying group – is Wladyslaw Zmuda.

Now with 86 caps to his credit he is set to join that exclusive "club" of players who have appeared in finals tournaments of no fewer than four World Cups.

Membership of this elite is at the moment confined to just eight men: Djalma Santos of Brazil (1954–1966), Pele of Brazil (1958–1970), Seeler and Schnellinger of West Germany (both 1958–1970), Hernandez of Mexico (1958–1970), Kolev of Bulgaria (1962–1974), Rocha of Uruguay (same dates) and Rivera of Italy (again, same dates).

Zmuda will be the first man to attain this distinction since 1974, but perhaps he'll have to share the accolade with the evergreen Scot Kenny Dalglish. The absolute record, of course, is held by the amazing Mexican goalkeeper Carbajal: *five* finals appearances between 1950 and 1966. But what's to prevent Zmuda from emulating even this remarkable feat, despite the more physically demanding nature of modern football and the extra wear-and-tear of being an outfield player?

The Pole has suffered several knee problems in the past few years, but these apart he's in excellent physical condition. He'll be celebrating his 32nd birthday actually during the Mexico tournament – having been born on June 6, 1954 – and so will be 36 for the 1990 version: surely not too old for the role of defensive mastermind, with younger men around him to carry out his orders?

Zmuda seems to have been around for an absolute age in international football, causing cynics to suggest he first saw the light of day before 1954. But that's the truth. Sure, he made his Poland debut fully twelve years ago, back in October 1973, but at the tender age of only 19. The Poles had just battled through to their first World Cup finals since 1938, at the expense of England, and coach Gorski was eager to blood some young reserves before the real thing.

By then, Zmuda had been a first-team regular at Gwardia Warsaw for over a year and had impressed both Gorski and the whole of the Polish football fraternity with his coolness under pressure, incisive tackling and aerial presence. Gorski lined him up alongside the gigantic Jerzy Gorgon as an experiment . . . and liked what he saw. So much so, in fact, that this tandem quickly become the defensive norm.

Zmuda celebrated his twentieth birthday days before the beginning of the 1974 tournament that converted him from an unknown into an internationally-renowned star. Gorgon did the marking whilst Zmuda did the sweeping up and the precise distribution out of defence. Against some of the world's most feared forwards – Riva and Rivera of Italy, Kempes and Houseman of Argentina – the raw 20-year-old scarcely put a foot wrong, and his personal contribution to Poland coming third was a huge one.

But, back home, problems were just around the corner. Zmuda was headstrong – not unlike Zbigniew Boniek – and all the rave reviews of his World Cup displays went to his head. He demanded an immediate transfer to the West and when, not surprisingly, this was refused him, he went on strike. Gwardia Warsaw suspended and then transferred him, to Slask Wroclaw. There, Zmuda put his game together again and was soon to be found helping his new club to the league title.

The Gorgon-Zmuda partnership – with the eccentric Tomaszewski again behind them, in goal – was just as competent and effective in Argentina in 1978 as it had been four years earlier in West Germany, and again Zmuda switched clubs on arriving back in Poland after the tournament. He signed for Widzew Lodz, the fastest-rising club in the country thanks to the efforts of coaches Stefan Wronski and Jacek Machinski. After finishing runners-up three times, Lodz went on to championship success in 1980 and 1981, due in no small part to the defensive composure and solidity of Wladyslaw Zmuda.

Zmuda was part of the Lodz quartet – along with Boniek, Terlecki and goalkeeper Mlynarczyk – involved in the infamous "airport rebellion" of December 1980, for which he received an eight-month suspension from all football by the irate Polish FA. The quartet apparently challenged coach Ryszard Kulesza's authority to prevent Mlynarczyk from boarding the plane for Cyprus – and a World Cup qualifier – whilst in a drunken state. But Zmuda was reprieved after only five months, before the others, and turned out in the vital 1–0 win over East Germany in Chorzow, May 1981.

Many important experts and critics regard Zmuda's performances in Spain '82 as the best of his career. Now 28 and partnered by Janas instead of Gorgon, he again proved his world class beyond a shadow of doubt. Not by storming upfield like Passarella or pulling men down like Stielike, but by quietly and competently marshalling a defence that conceded only five goals in seven games – the best record of the four teams who went the whole distance in Spain. Like Italy's Gaetano Scirea, a sweeper similarly short on pace but another wonderful reader of the game, Zmuda remained ice-cool amidst the heat and the drama.

It was now the ritual for Zmuda to change clubs after each World Cup, and in 1982 he and Boniek were given permission to move abroad. The elegant sweeper was signed by Verona, a steadily rising force in Italian football, but his two years there were ruined by a succession of knee injuries and operations.

Following the signings of Elkjaer and Briegel in 1984, the Pole found himself surplus to requirements at Verona and so went on his travels yet again . . . this time to New York and a lucrative contract with Cosmos.

Zmuda quickly forged a solid partnership with the all-action USA captain Jeff Durgan, and settled down well to life in the Big Apple. But the timing of his trip across the Atlantic was unfortunate, for the NASL collapsed in the spring of 1985, leaving Zmuda to play in the semi-pro New Jersey Italian American League and searching for a new home back in Europe.

Zmuda's long-term ambition is to become a coach, but, as he himself is the first to point out, there's a long way to go before he thinks about hanging up his boots.

A fourth World Cup and maybe even a fifth is the immediate objective of this outstanding sweeper who has done so much to help maintain Poland as a potent force in world football.

by Pentti Hietanen

IF a World XI were named today, many fans would no doubt include Rinat Dasayev in their team. The 28-year-old international goalkeeper of Spartak Moscow has proved his class time and again and seems to mature with age.

Even in matches, where he has little to do, Dasayev's class shows, as in the Soviet Union's vital 1–0 World Cup victory over Denmark at Moscow's Lenin stadium.

The Danes had only three clear-cut chances in the match, yet Dasayev was one of the heroes of the home team as he made fine saves from forceful efforts by Michael Laudrup and Jan Mölby.

While the Danish team were left pondering over those near-misses, for Rinat Dasayev this was a personal revenge. For last June, in Copenhagen, the Danes had run riot to beat the famous Soviet custodian four times. It was only the third occasion on which Dasayev had conceded four goals to foreign opposition.

That would not happen again. Not in Moscow. A crucial 1–0 win over one of Europe's most goal-happy sides proved Rinat Dasayev's point: he is still among the leading candidates for the world's best goalkeeper's crown.

But despite his present status as perhaps the most popular current Soviet player, Rinat Dasayev is aware that he will probably never be anything else but "second best". For years he has had to put up with comparison with the great Lev Yashin, arguably the best-ever goalkeeper and the man, whom they called "The Octopuss" or "The Black Spider". Whenever Dasayev makes a rare mistake between the posts, he can be sure that both the fans and the press will have a go at him by somewhat exaggerately stating that Yashin, in his prime, would NEVER have done so and so.

Dasayev is undoubtedly his own fiercest critic. He said in an interview a couple of years ago: "I worry a lot about each mistake that I make but try not to show it while I am playing. While the game is on you simply have to put it out of your mind. It is only afterwards that I try to analyse my own performance, try to make out whether a possible mistake has been only an occasional slip or whether it is a bad habit that I have picked up. I then carefully plan what I could do in training to iron out the rough spots of my game."

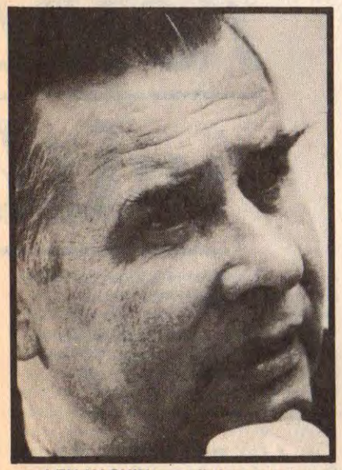
There is clearly that same touch of a hard-to-please perfectionist in Dasayev that is so apparent in England's Peter Shilton. He would no doubt be the first one to agree with the maxim of his illustrious predecessor Yashin that, in theory, every shot in a match is savable.

Rinat Dasayev was born on July 13, 1957, in Astrakhan, a town in southern Russia, on the coast of the Caspian Sea. He was introduced to football by his father, who took him to a football school for young kids run by a local club, Volgar.

Their junior coach, Gerald Blednyh used Rinat as a forward and he kept learning how to beat goalkeepers rather than being one himself, until the age of 12. Then the goalkeeper of Dasayev's team failed to show up for a training session. Who would take his place between the posts? After a few refusals, Rinat volunteered to tackle the job — "But only for half an hour", as he remembers saying.

To his own surprise he enjoyed the experience and decided to stay put. He started making useful progress and debuted in the third division for Volgar at the age of 17. It was everything but a happy debut, as Dasayev had to leave the pitch with a knee-injury. A long lay-off and an operation were needed, but the youngster refused to give up. He resumed to training only to be put out by a new injury, this time to his other knee.

At that point, the 18-year-old "Dos" was told by a specialist doctor to quit football altogether. Rinat, however, would take none of such talk. He tenaciously fought back to fitness and firmly grasped a first-team lifeline at Volgar. His reputation soon began to spread and he was then off to Moscow to become a student of Physical Education and to join the famous Spartak club.



LEV YASHIN . . . all-time great.

After serving his apprenticeship, Dasayev made his debut in Spartak's first-team on May 23, 1978, in an away league match against Zarya Voroshilovgrad. It came totally out of the blue. Only on the previous day Rinat had turned out for Spartak's reserve team and thought that he would be travelling only as a non-playing cover for the club's first-choice keeper, Aleksander Prohorov.

But Spartak's wily old coach Konstantin Beskov had other ideas. An hour before the kick-off he took Dasayev aside and broke the news: "Get changing, you're playing today."

Even now "Dos" says that he cannot remember too much of the match — except that he was shaking with the nerves! But he did not commit any blunders, either, in a goalless draw. Dasayev then retained his place for the following home match against Spartak's local rivals Locomotiv Moscow. This time he was immense as Spartak won 1–0.

Having been given the opportunity, Dasayev would not stand still. He quickly started to blossom and to win over the fans and the national selectors as well.

Dasayev today can look back to more than 200 league games for Spartak. His average of conceding only 0.9 goals per match is the fourth-best in the Soviet history. The table is, of course, led by the inevitable Yashin with Dynamo Kiev's former international keeper Yevgeni Rudakov, the famous "Ukrainan Granite", in the second place. Dasayev is also set to become the next player to join the exclusive club of Soviet keepers who have kept a "clean sheet" in more than one hundred first-class matches.

Dasayev's arrival at Spartak coincided with the Soviet Union's difficulties in trying to decide who would play regularly in the goal for the national team. It was a question to which the national team manager Nikita Simonian could not find an answer as his team employed four different goalkeepers during the qualifying rounds for the European Championship finals of 1980. The Soviet team was in a mess and Dasayev was, a little more than a year after making his first division debut, thrown in at the deep end for the all-important tie versus Greece in Athens on September 12, 1979.

It was a match which the goalkeeper would gladly want to forget. In front of fervent home supporters, he was far from convincing and could only watch a well-placed shot by Nikoloudis, which brought Greece a 1–0 win and a place in the finals in Italy the following June.

The Soviets were out. So, too, was Nikita Simonian, who was promptly given the sack. He was replaced by Konstantin Beskov, who returned for his second spell in charge of the national team. For Rinat Dasayev, it was a happy choice. Beskov, of course, knew all about him and gave Dasayev all the support he needed.

Doubling as Spartak's manager, Beskov made Dasayev an automatic choice as the Soviet Union reached the World Cup finals of 1982. And, for a change, they were producing fine results, thanks to Beskov's decision to concentrate on players from Dynamo Kiev and Dynamo Tbilisi. Dasayev was beaten only twice in the qualifying matches, meanwhile forwards like Oleg Blokhin and Ramaz Shengelia were rattling in 20 at the other end.

Yet Dasayev left for Spain in a flurry of criticism and doubt. He had received a lot of stick in the national press for a shaky showing in Spartak's 4–0 UEFA Cup defeat by West Germany's Kaiserslautern in November, 1981. The question was: could he cope with the extra pressures of the World Cup?

They need not have worried, for it was Dasayev who made all the friends in Spain. Despite being beaten by two late, brilliant shots by Socrates and Elder in the Soviets' 1–2 defeat to Brazil in the opening match and despite conceding two further goals to Scotland (2–2), Dasayev's safe handling, cat-like agility and impeccable positioning soon caught the eye.

He kept his goal intact in the second stage matches against Belgium (1–0) and Poland (0–0) to enhance his reputation.

But it was in the attack that the Soviet team had run out of ideas, suddenly forgetting all about their fluent style of the qualifying rounds.

After the bitter experiences in Spain, Konstantin Beskov's time with the national team was up. His successor Valery Lobanovsky did not last long, either, as the Soviets failed to progress into the European championship finals of 1984. But, despite all the chopping and changing, Dasayev's place in goal has never been in any serious jeopardy. In fact, current boss Eduard Malofeyev appointed him as the national captain in succession to Aleksander Chivadze.

Although Dasayev would no doubt earn himself a fortune if it was possible for him to take his talent to Italy or Spain, he enjoys a good standard of living in Moscow, too, being the idol of Spartak's fans. Outside football, Dasayev spends his spare time by listening to music, also to western pop music, going to theatre, swimming and dancing.

His targets as a player? "Mexico would be just another stop for me. After all, I will be only 33 in 1990. Dino Zoff became a World Cup winner with Italy at the age of 40 and Yashin retired only at 42. I plan to go on to emulate those two great players."

If he manages to realise his ambition, he will then no doubt become his country's most-capped goalkeeper and surpass the current record of 75 caps, held by Yashin. At least then, Dasayev would have put one over his great compatriot!

Lifting the Iron Curtain on two of Eastern Europe's top clubs . . .

CHEERS FOR STEAUA

NOT SINCE 1978 have the fans of European Cup quarter-finalists Steaua Bucharest had so much to cheer. Seven years after their last triumph in the Rumanian championship, Steaua once more realised the dreams of their loyal supporters by lifting the title again and going on to take the early season lead in the new campaign.

That and their success in the Champions' Cup, in which they disposed of Allan Simonsen's Vejle, the Danish champions, in the first round, and Honved in the second, has marked the current campaign as something of a new peak in the fortunes of Steaua.

Founded in July 1947 by the Ministry of Defence, Steaua is the Rumanian army soccer club. In its earliest years, from 1947 to 1961, the club was named CCA Bucharest (CCA standing for Casa Central Armeii — the central building of the army), but in 1961 it changed its name to Steaua.

Since 1947, Steaua have won ten championships, including last season's triumph, and lifted the Rumanian Cup 14 times, including last season's victory. They have done the double four times.

Of last season's double-winning squad, none of the players came from Bucharest, a natural result of the club being the army team and not one based on a permanent district or institution of the city.

Steaua's home is the 30,000 capacity Steaua stadium in Ghencea, a picturesque ground surrounded by tall trees. The Steaua sports park is a vast area with several football pitches, rugby and handball pitches and a full range of medical treatment rooms, offices, kitchens and facilities for the players.

As is common with the army club sides in Europe, Steaua's players are given an education during their national service. Star midfielder Ladislau Boloni, for example, is a club dentist working at Ghencea.

The team manager is Emmerich Jenei, an imposing man, who behind a stern and demanding approach is an extremely charming and articulate person. He loves to see attacking soccer played with great imagination. His assistant is Aran Iordanescu. Jenei, the architect of last season's double win, was also in charge in 1975-76 when they last won the double.

Steaua opened this season with a home fixture against Corvinul Hunedoara, previously trained by current Rumanian national manager Mircea Lucescu, in front of a capacity crowd at their Steaua stadium.

Before kick-off, Steaua captain Tudorel Stoica, 31, was presented with the crystal vase trophy of the Rumanian championship and the players all presented with gold medals to mark their triumph. They were also given the champions' blue jerseys with red, yellow and white hoops.

With the players throwing flowers into the crowd, there was a carnival atmosphere in keeping with Steaua's mood.

Steaua dominated Corvinul, but the central Rumanian team, well-organised by Michael Klein, the intelligent and skilful international midfielder, and inspired by an agile and brave goalkeeper in Ionitâ, were difficult to penetrate.

But they were lucky not to be 3-0 down in the first 20 minutes.

Eventually Steaua won 1-0 with a 66th-minute goal by substitute Petcu following a goalmouth scramble.

The champions played their full-strength team except forward Marius Lacatus (21), who was slightly injured and came on as a substitute for Gavril Balint (22) in the second half.

Steaua goalkeeper is Helmuth Ducadam (26), a tall and powerful man. In spite of his immense size, he showed very good reflexes indeed. In the air he seemed unbeatable and his distribution was impeccable.

At libero is the revelation of last season, Miodrag Belodedici (21), a tall, slender, fast, skilled, bold and clever young man. He bares some resemblance to the great Brazilian centre-halves, Bellini of 1958, and Maur of 1962. In Europe, one immediately compares him with Franz Beckenbauer.

He lingers like a hawk in the spaces behind the defence and dives like a hawk on to any poor forward who has been able to sneak through.

Stopper is Adrian Bumbescu (25), a tall, powerful blond player who uses all his height and weight. He plays a very physical game.

Having problems with players like Klein and Matehut, both international midfielders, he was finally cautioned by the referee. But he is not a brutal player. He rather looked like a man who is trying a new concept for using his resources more effectively.

Right back is Stefan Iovan (25), who played in Rumania's 0-2 defeat against the Soviet Union in Moscow on August 7. Left back is Ilie Barbulescu (28). Both are strong, fast and technical defenders, with an attacking attitude, not only against teams like Corvinul Hunedoara, but also against tougher opposition away from home. A third back is newcomer from Baie Maire, 19-year-old Gabriel Andrei, who is expected to do great things in the future.

The strongest section of the Steaua team is mid-field. The central part is the "triangle", which consists of the Rumanian internationals Tudorel Stoica (31), who plays in a deep right central position, Ladislau Bölöni (32), who arrived from Tirgu Mures in the 1984-85 season, and Mihail Majearu (25). They form the dynamic and constructive centre of the team. They all work well together. They are assisted by Stefan Petcu (28), the goal-scorer against Corvinul and newcomer from Baia Maire this season Lucian Balan (26).

Up front, Steaua are rich in talent. All four players are, or have been, internationals.

Marius Lacatus (21), is a regular in the Rumanian team. He is a tall and slender modern type of "attacanti", who uses his sharp footballing brain in search of the slightest mistake made by the defenders. He loves the empty spaces and he is off in a tenth of a second and places his shots with deadly accuracy when given a chance.

Lucescu has also used Victor Piturca (29) mostly when Camataru from Universitatea Craiova is injured.

He is a very clever and unorthodox forward, as he showed against Corvinul, when he played with his back to the defence like a target-player in basketball.

Another frontrunner is Marin Radu (29), who played seven times in the national team. Gavril Balint (22), a hard worker with useful skills, played in the second half against the Soviet Union in Moscow.

Sarajevo rewarded with title

from Stefan Tarras and Robert Alexander

EXPERIENCE paid off last season for FK Sarajevo when they won the Yugoslavian title for the second time in their history.

Unlike most Yugoslav clubs, they had resisted selling any star players abroad for five years during which they had kept their unchanged squad together.

This helped the players to blend and mature together and their strong team spirit and collective harmony carried them to an exciting triumph on the final day of the 1984-85 campaign.

Sarajevo — or Futbol Klub Sarajevo in full — beat Red Star Belgrade 4-2 in their last game while their nearest challengers, the talented Hajduk Split team, lost sensationally at home to Dinamo Zagreb.

It was Sarajevo's first title win since 1966-67 when both the present club president Vujovic and trainer Bosko Antic were players.

But this season, after losing star striker Husref Musemic to Red Star, Sarajevo have not been able to carry on their success of last season and have struggled in mid-table in the league and been knocked out of the Champions' Cup in the first round by the unfancied Finnish champions Kuusysi Lahti.

Once again FK Sarajevo, it seems, will return to the shadows of the four giants of Yugoslav soccer — Red Star and Partizan of Belgrade, and Dinamo Zagreb and Hajduk Split. The big four come from the most densely-populated areas and possess the resources to find the best young talent in the country . . . as they did when Red Star signed Husref Musemic from Sarajevo only a few days after their title triumph.

The loss of their leading striker was a blow, of course, to Sarajevo, but a typical episode in their history.

They were formed in November 1946 through an amalgamation of Sloboda and Udarnik and they qualified for the First Division in Yugoslavia in 1947 by beating Sloga — now Vojvodina — in a playoff. They have been in the First Division ever since, except for the 1956-57 season.

The soccer club of FK Sarajevo is one part of the sports club of SD Sarajevo which includes nine different sports within its activities. FK Sarajevo is an independent organ within the parent club and has its own economy, administration and board of 10 directors who control the club and its finances.

Club revenue is based on gate money which provides about 65 per cent of the total income. A further 30 per cent of the club's income is from shirt advertising — bought for one game at a time. Normally, the shirt advertising is paid for by local Sarajevo firms. The remaining part of the club's income comes from transfers.

Because the club has an extremely well-run youth section which includes more than 200 boys and eight trainers, it is rare for Sarajevo to buy a player and indeed they have not signed a First Division player from a rival club for 20 years.

The senior professional squad at the club has 24 players who earn about $360 (£180 sterling) each month.

Sarajevo's home stadium is the Kosevo Stadium, rebuilt for the 1980 Winter Olympics, where they average home attendances of about 16,000. Sarajevo is the capital of Bosnia-Hercegovina and FK are the senior club although city rivals Zeljeznicar, who average 10,000 fans, almost reached last season's UEFA Cup final.

Sarajevo's trainer is Bosko Antic, 42, a former player at OFK Belgrade — where he was mostly reserve to the famous Josip Skoblar — Rennes in France and Caen.

Antic, a positive-thinking coach, believes in attacking soccer. He said: "The basic idea of the game is to score more goals, many more, than your opponents both at home and away. We have always followed this belief and won the title in this manner."

The FK Sarajevo team plays a fast and technical game without much emphasis on aerial play. They try to create as much variation as possible.

The team's average age is 24. They play a basic 4-3-3 at home and a 4-4-2 away with right-sided forward Dragan Jakovljevic being withdrawn into midfield against particularly tough opposition.

In goal is Milos Durkovic (29). In front of him FK Sarajevo play with a conventional back four in which the flank defenders are Ferid Radalaz (25) on the right and Mirza Kapetanovic (25) on the left.

The central defenders are Faruk Hadzibegic (28) who has won 16 full international caps, and Davor Jozic (24) who has won six caps.

Mehmed Janjos (28) plays the anchor role in midfield, defending when his teammates go forward and dropping back to cover in defence when any of the back four move into attack. He is particularly adept at setting up counter-attacks, in much the same way Tiburic plays for Hajduk.

Also in midfield with Janjos are Slavisa Vukicevic (23) and Senad Merdanovic (23).

In attack Dragan Jakovljevic (24) covers the right flank, as said earlier, either wide in attack or withdrawn into midfield. He now carries the burden as the team's mainspring in attack following the transfers of his two leading co-strikers from last season, Husref Musemic and Predrag Pasic.

Musemic, who was the central striker last season, has been signed by Red Star Belgrade and Pasic, who filled the striking role on the left, has agreed to join Paris St Germain. He was expected to start playing in France in January, 1986. Their double departure is a serious blow to FK Sarajevo.

But their departures are also typical of the problems which have stifled the Yugoslavian game for years. Today more than 120 Yugoslavian players are currently abroad — the equivalent of ten teams or half the First Division!

Forces within the Yugoslav game are attempting to persuade the Yugoslavian Football Association to lower the age limit restricting players from going abroad from 28 to 18. They believe this will mean players will leave earlier — but return earlier as well.

JUVE FRAN

"I'M FURIOUS," Franco Zeffirelli said to me, in the artillery room of Barletta's Swabian Castle, Deep South on the Adriatic.

The celebrated director of films, opera and television was making a movie of Verdi's opera *Otello* with Placido Domingo majestically in the lead; but when the music stopped, the scene was in the can, his thoughts strayed to the injustice of the fine inflicted on him for castigating Juventus. "Pure Fascism," he exclaimed.

You could understand his fury. On the face of it, the way the decision had been given against him in a Milan court last October was utterly outrageous. In Italy, surprisingly, libel is not a civil but a criminal matter. So when Juventus finally made good their long-standing threat to bring Zeffirelli to court for savaging them, it was a criminal, not a civil, court.

There, though he was not present, Zeffirelli had expected to be given the opportunity to produce what he regarded as substantial proof of his allegations. As a Florentine and a passionate fan of Fiorentina, he hates Juventus, deplores what he considers their unacceptable methods (he has put it a great deal more strongly, especially where referees are concerned), feels that Fiorentina were cheated out of the Championship in 1981, and had prepared many television clips to show he was right in his tirades.

Amazingly, the judges would not admit any evidence at all on behalf of Zeffirelli, whose lawyers seemed to be wholly outmanoeuvred by those of Juventus. The judges found Zeffirelli guilty and ordered he pay a fine of 41 million lire, vastly more than Juventus had initially, through the public prosecutor, demanded or expected.

Needless to say Zeffirelli has appealed, but he assures me that if the appeal is not allowed (the Italian Court of Appeal is not even obliged to let him be heard, let alone uphold his appeal) he will take the case to the European Court of human rights. Who, in the grotesque circumstances, could blame him?

As Zeffirelli complained to me, cases in Italy can go on for months, prisoners awaiting trial can remain behind bars for years, "and this case was settled in one and a half hours". Certainly a rancid odour comes off the proceedings. Whether or not Zeffirelli had libelled Juventus, he was surely entitled to present his defence, rather than be condemned out of hand in so blatantly undemocratic and unjust a way.

It was stated in the trial — such as it was — that Zeffirelli had called Giampiero Boniperti "a mafioso who eats nuts". When I put this to Zeffirelli, he said it was an utter distortion. He had been asked, he explained, what was it that he would cast Boniperti as, were he to put him in one of his films. To this he replied, "Judging by the way he eats nuts on television, I'd cast him as a mafioso".

Yet in barely a couple of weeks, Juventus were in trouble and turmoil again. As we know, their European Cup return match in Turin against Verona caused appalling ructions, when the French refereee, the frequently controversial Robert Wurtz, gave Juve a penalty but denied one to Verona when the Juventus striker Aldo Serena quite clearly punched the ball out of his own penalty area. Not only that, but Juve went almost straight to the other end, to score their clinching goal.

Afterwards, Serena said that he was pushed when going for the ball, and therefore handled it inadvertently. As I was not there and did not even see the incident on television — I was on my way to Genoa for the Sampdoria-Benfica Cup-winners' Cup return — I have no opinion on the matter. Nor would I ever express one without having undertaken the fullest possible investigation of what happened.

But certainly the Verona manager and players had no doubts about it all. Prebend Elkjaer, the Danish international centre-forward, rushed up to Wurtz at the end of the game, insulting him and making the motions of signing a cheque. Surprisingly, Wurtz did not officially report him. Then when a thrown shoe broke and shattered into fragments the glass of the Verona dressing room door, attracting to the scene a plain-clothes policeman, Osvaldo Bagnoli, the Verona manager, told him with a gesture at Juve's dres-

STEFANO TACCONI . . . Juventus goalkeeper.

VENTUS TACKLE ANCO IN COURT

sing room, "The thieves are down there".

The Italian sporting Press, singularly reticent about previous accusations of corruption against Juventus and (still more cogently, in the 1960s) Internazionale, could hardly ignore such a domestic scandal. They devoted pages to what had happened, though still none of them has written a word of criticism of the decision in the Zeffirelli case. Indeed, one leading sports paper actually published a tart little piece saying that in terms of the law, the verdict was quite correct. To which one can only respond in the words of Charles Dickens, that if the law says that, then the law is an ass. Or worse.

A short distance from Barletta, none of this had disturbed the largely happy days of Gordon Cowans and Paul Rideout, whom I was lucky enough to visit on the very Sunday that Cowans made his excellent league debut for Bari. Last August the unlucky little fellow, still such a fine inside forward, had again broken the leg so badly broken in Spain in 1983.

If Cowans can stay free of injury — he was soon out again, but with a bruised thigh, this time — and if Rideout can maintain the exhilarating improvement shown in his league career with Bari, then surely both are worth a place in the England party for Mexico. Franco Janich has been particularly pleased. Centre-half for Bologna when they won the Championship play-off against Inter, and his hero Fulvio Bernardini managed the side, Janich wanted Cowans for Naples when he was the general manager there.

Sadly and ironically, for poor Cowans, a palace revolution reinstalled in power Antonio Juliano, the Naples and Italy inside-forward. Juliano scotched the transfer of Cowans, who therefore went to Saragossa with Villa for one of those notoriously violent pre-season tournaments where he had his leg savagely broken by a Mexican. That cost him a year out of the game. The second break was nothing like so bad, enabling Cowans to come back with remarkable speed and characteristic courage. The crowd loved him, and a journalist in the Press Box told me gravely, after Bari had beaten Lecce 2-0 in a vital local derby, "Cowans has restored dignity to Bari's midfield".

As for Rideout, the player the local, fickle fans had jeered at as "Mr Nobody" after his disappointing opening games, he added another fine goal to an impressive series of them. When Cowans hit a long ball into the box, Rideout flicked it on with his head to the blond Sclosa, on the left. A burst, a cross, and there was Rideout at the far post to head in.

Both he and Cowans said they had found the football in Italy much less brutal than they had been led to expect. Rideout told me he'd been warned "you'll get a lot of elbow in the face", but up to that time the only unpleasant experience he had had was against Brio of Juventus.

When I told Zeffirelli as much he said that he was not surprised; that Brio should be drummed out of the League. Cowans in his turn told me that he had been warned that the derby would be a bruising game, but that any first division match he had appeared in had been physically harder. At all events the days when local fans after a bad defeat by Roma in the Italian Cup gathered outside Janich's house to yell, "*Ladro!* Thief!" seemed to be well behind.

Janich says he had faith in the two players all along. He was encouraged to buy them by Gianni Paladini, a voluble Neapolitan working in Birmingham night clubs. Now Paladini is what Cowans describes as "our agent, interpreter and friend". Neither of the players at that early stage spoke much Italian and though Rideout was utterly convinced of the importance of acquiring it, he was not too optimistic. Languages, he said, had never been his forte, and Ray Wilkins had told him how immensely difficult it was to combine football with linguistic lessons.

Janich is greatly pleased with the manifest progress Rideout has made in Italy. Rideout himself feels he is moving better and greatly enjoys the training of the manager Bruno Bolchi, all of which is done with the ball. Janich feels his leg muscles are now more sharply developed but would like to improve his heading technique.

The remarkable news that Senator Viola, the President of Roma, has been "deferred" to the Federal Court of the Italian FA for allegedly trying to bribe the French referee Vautrot before 1984's European Cup semi-final return against Dundee United, surprised me greatly, but seems to have dimensions of farce. Certainly there was nothing in that game to look askance at; I saw it myself. Oddly enough there were a couple of rather doubtful decisions involving Roma's goals against Wrexham at the Olympic Stadium later that year, and the next season, in the Cup-winners' Cup.

One hears that if any money did change hands, it never even was offered to the referee let alone accepted by him; the word is that two ex-professional players were pulling a very fast one indeed. Poor Viola; he had had a trying month of it already, having been viciously kicked by a well-dressed and seemingly respectable Juventus fan when his team visited Turin in the League.

★ ★ ★

IT WAS sad indeed to learn of the death of little George Raynor; an event almost ignored, alas, by our own Press. Raynor was one of the best "guerrilla general" coaches of his day, manager of Sweden when they won the Olympic football title in London, competed — shorn of so many stars — to take third place in the Brazilian World Cup of 1950; not to mention the World Cup of 1958 when the old pros came home and Sweden lost the Final to Brazil.

I came to know Raynor very well when we were both living in Rome in the season of 1954-55, when he, having had a brief spell with Juventus, was manager of Lazio, while the Liverpudlian Jesse Carver successfully managed Roma. It was a dire experience for Raynor. Plot and counterplot. The jumped-out Count Vaselli, vice-president, was trying to unseat the president, Tessarolo. Poor old Gigi Peronace, then a player agent, was being given the blame for the club having bought a bunch of ancient stars, long past their meridian.

Aspect

Raynor was heartbroken by the Byzantien aspect of it all; he was heard to say miserably to himself that he had always thought football was a game for gentlemen. But with his Yorkshire spirit and his resilience, he overcame. He gradually weeded out the old men, got one or two of the less disciplined younger ones to mend their ways, used the Swedish inside-forward Sigge Lofgren as the marker of star opponents. To such effect that in one torrid game Giampiero Boniperti, then the Juventus centre-forward, felled Sigge with a blow of the elbow.

Sassi, the Lazio left-half, a rugged fellow who seldom shaved before a game, felled Boni with his elbow. Ferrario, the massive Juve centre-forward, then felled the Lazio right-back Antonazzi in the same way.

"What a pity, Mister!" Ferrario complained to Raynor afterwards outside the dressing rooms, in all sincerity. "Ten minutes from the end it had been a quiet game, a quiet game!"

THE BRIAN GLANVILLE column

Pezzey the new captain of Austria

by Arthur Rotmil

AT THE age of 30 and with 75 caps behind him Bruno Pezzey has received the most coveted personal accolade — he was made captain of the Austrian national side. He took over from Herbert Prohaska, who like other distinguished veterans Krankl, Koncilia and Obermayer have "retired" from national colours.

A new team will be built for the European Championships 1986-88 under the recently engaged Yugoslav coach Branko Elsner. He obviously sees in Pezzey the man who, thanks to his vast international experience, could guide, encourage and lead by example a number of younger players who will have to be drafted in and try to make Austria a first-rate soccer power again.

Pezzey will not be able to follow the development at close quarters for since 1978 he has been a professional in the West German Bundesliga, first with Eintracht Frankfurt and lately with Werder Bremen.

In his favourite position of "libero" (sweeper) the tall (6ft 3in) and dark-haired Bruno has often been called "Austria's Franz Beckenbauer". He has the same phlegmatic approach contemptuous, yet elegant movement on and off the ball, the same brilliant control and vision and is stronger in the air, though he lacks that distinguishing instinctive skill and string of successes to be placed alongside Beckenbauer in the hall of the old time greats of world football. Perhaps if he were a German he might have developed into a similarly unforgettable player.

Bruno Edmund Pezzey was born on February 2, 1955 near Bregenz the capital of Vorarlberg, the most westerly province of Austria. His early interest in football was fuelled by his father, also called Bruno, who spent some years as a goalkeeper and later as coach with the second division club SV Lauterbach.

Young Bruno joined the juniors at the age of ten, but he had no ambition to emulate his father by becoming a 'keeper. After seven years in midfield, occasionally being switched back to central defence, he made the first team and then joined the local club SW Bregenz.

His displays impressed numerous talent scouts but not the big Viennese clubs. Instead Wacker Innsbruck stepped in in 1974. The Tyroleans were then dominating Austrian football, winning the league championships five times in the space of seven seasons (1971-77) and twice the cup. Pezzey's development in the first division was so rapid that after helping Wacker to another league title he made his international debut against West Germany on September 3, 1975 but finished on the losing side (0-2).

After some disappointment the Austrians surprisingly reached the World Cup finals for the first time in 20 years in Argentina and this proved to be the making of Pezzey as an international star.

He played with distinction in all six games, Austria having topped the initial phase group ahead of Brazil, Spain and Sweden. Then came that memorable 3-2 win over West Germany, then the reigning world champions. It was Austria's first win over their old foes for 47 years! Meanwhile Eintracht Frankfurt were already, in 1977, putting out feelers for the commanding central defender.

Pezzey's fine displays in Argentina persuaded them to offer Innsbruck £200,000. Other clubs, Borussia Dortmund, 1FC Nürnberg, as well as the Spanish outfits Sporting Gijon and Burgos were also in contention, but Pezzey since childhood developed a liking for German teams especially Frankfurt. There he settled down fairly quickly despite managerial upheavals and the powerful influence exerted by Eintracht's famous international stars Jürgen Grabowski and Bernd Hölzenbein.

Pezzey also endeared himself to the fans by scoring vital, often impressively headed, goals and his no-nonsense tackling, though this did bring him six bookings in his first season. Worse was to follow when he collected a three-month ban and a £1,200 fine for punching an opponent in the stomach. In his five years there Pezzey gained winners' medals in the UEFA Cup 1980 (final triumph over Borussia Mönchengladbach) and the cup in 1981, thanks to a 3-1 win over Kaiserslautern. His last season was preceded by yet another appearance in the World Cup finals in 1982 in Spain.

Austria again reached the second phase with Pezzey once more prominent in all five matches. By this time he was looking for a fresh challenge at club level. In his spell with Eintracht the club never finished higher than fifth in the Bundesliga. A championship winning medal seemed as far away as ever, so that by 1983 he was ready to try his luck elsewhere. Austrian clubs didn't tempt him since financially outside Spain and Italy only the Bundesliga could offer him the security of a high salary commensurate with his lifestyle.

When Werder Bremen decided he was the man to strengthen and organise their defence and offered him a good deal Pezzey said farewell to Frankfurt in the summer of 1983. This season the Bremer started strongly heading the Bundesliga in the opening phase of the championship campaign. It helped Pezzey to soothe the disappointment of not having made it to Mexico with the national side. Austria looked all set to earn at least a play-off against the runners-up of group one, when Holland surprisingly beat the group winners Hungary in Budapest to snatch the vital second spot in group five.

By way of consolation came the promotion to captain of the national side, albeit deprived of competitive football for at least another year before the next qualifying ties in the European Championship 1986-88.

But Pezzey is used to the highs and lows when playing for his country. One of his finest performances came in June 1979 when Austria beat England in Vienna by 4-3. It was the first time in 15 years (since losing 5-1 to Brazil in Rio) that England had conceded that many goals. And Pezzey was very much a part of it, scoring twice including the winner with a thunderous header. He enjoyed the unusual distinction of beating both England's famous goalkeepers in the same match, for Clemence replaced Shilton at half-time.

Pezzey's most bitter memory of an international is surely that infamous World Cup match against West Germany in Spain. The Austrians had already qualified for the second stage, while the Germans needed a win to overtake their surprise earlier conquerors Algeria. After Hrubesch gave the Germans the necessary 1-0 lead both the Germans and Austrians contrived to play "passive" football to eliminate the gallant North Africans on goal difference.

Their display caused a storm of protest, even in their own countries, and prompted the world body FIFA to re-examine the whole system of group matches to prevent a repetition of those shameful events in Gijon. The Austrians claimed there was no "connivance" with the Germans beforehand. But not many neutrals, and certainly no Algerians, believed them . . .

ANOTHER international line-up for Bruno Pezzey (third from left).

PARAGUAY WIN THROUGH

from ERIC WEIL

PARAGUAY won the "runners-up replay" in South America comfortably to qualify for the World Cup finals for the first time since 1958.

Paraguay last qualified for the finals in Sweden 28 years ago by topping their group in which Uruguay was second and Colombia third, while in the finals they finished a point behind quarter-final qualifiers France and Yugoslavia in group 2, but two points ahead of Scotland who were bottom of the group. This time, according to Paraguayan FA president, Jesus Pallares, they will draw up plans in order not to finish 24th (bottom).

At press time it appeared that these plans may not be able to include coach Cayetano Re who took them into the finals. Re had already hinted that he would not renew his contract which ended with the playing of the last qualifying match, because he wanted to leave the country.

After the match he said: "There is lack of organisation in my country which makes it impossible to prepare well. We can't practice together a lot, because so many of the key players are on the books of foreign clubs, so the only option is to play a lot of friendly matches. They (the FA) will have to prepare a lengthy schedule of games to be well prepared and if that is not done we will he heading straight for failure."

Paraguay qualified with ease, in both cases playing the second away legs calmly after 3-0 home victories and perhaps they played better than they had done in their World Cup qualifying group earlier this year when they were second to Brazil. Apart from bringing back Romero (Fluminense, Brazil) who was not fully fit then — Buenaventura Ferreira and Nunes (Cali, Colombia), Paraguay also this time lined up goalkeeper Fernandez (Cali), Cabañas (America, Colombia) and Cañete (Cruz Azul, Mexico) and the latter stood out in attack.

Paraguay beat Colombia 3-0 at home with Cañete having a hand in all three goals. It was Cañete's excellent pass which put Hicks through after 15 minutes, while 25 minutes after half-time Cañete was brought down in the area and Romero netted the penalty. Eleven minutes from the end a Cañete shot cannoned off the cross-bar and Cabanas netted the rebound. Colombia — with the basis of their team from the America club which had had a tiring series of games in the Libertadores Cup — played some good combined soccer, but lacked penetration.

In the second leg, in Cali, Paraguay played calmly and more defensively and although they lost 2-1 to a more nervous Colombian side — all the goals came in the second half and Willington Ortiz's winner only two minutes from the end — they went through 4-2 on aggregate to qualify for a final clash for a World Cup place with Chile.

Chile made a terrific start at home against Peru with three goals in the first 15 minutes and goalkeeper Acasuzo, brought back from Bolivia — where he plays for Bolivar — for the occasion was blamed for them. After 25 minutes he was replaced by Argentine-born Ramón Quiroga — the man who let through six against Argentina in the 1978 World Cup finals and was then accused of having accepted bribes — and although this steadied the Peruvian defence a bit, it was too late.

Two second-half goals from centre-forward Navarro did, however, make the score look more respectable as Peru finally went down 4-2 . . . and the two away goals were useful as they counted double in case of a tie on goals over the two legs.

Apart from losing the match, Peru also finished with 10 men as defender Diaz was sent off in the second half, while Olaechea was also due to miss the second leg as he had accumulated two yellow cards.

Chile also missed dangerous winger Yanez — one of their imports who plays in Spain — for the second leg as he had been injured by Diaz in a nasty tackle (for which the latter received his first warning on the way to being sent off), but striker Aravena, another "import" from Spain, won the match 1-0 from a free-kick after 64 minutes to give Chile a 5-2 aggregate win.

Peru put the pressure on Chile and the latter's goalkeeper, Rojas, was their star. Chile seldom broke out of defence, but their goal came as a result of virtually Peru's only defensive mistake.

Peru's goalkeeper, Acasuzo, was dismissed from the national team squad after the first leg and also accused of having been bribed by some of the Press. When he left to return to Bolivia he was also not able to collect the $1,000 agreed on with the FA for two weeks training and the match with the national team.

Paraguay again took a 3-0 home leg lead in the decisive clash with Chile. Cabanas gave them a nine-minute lead after Delgado made it two just after the break, Chile fought back desperately but could not get through despite dominating the midfield and Ferreira made it three for Paraguay near the end.

The Chilean FA reduced match tickets for the second leg in Santiago in order to get massive support and also announced that fans coming with drums and horns would get in free so as to produce an enormous din all through the match . . . but to no avail.

Calm Paraguay defended and counter-attacked well even though Rubio gave Chile a nine-minute lead in front of over 70,000 fans at the Estadio Nacional. Schettina equalised after 20 minutes and Romero put Paraguay ahead after 39. And although Muñoz equalised for Chile six minutes from the end, it was not nearly enough as Paraguay qualified for Mexico on a 5-2 aggregate.

RIVER PLATE LEVEL WITH BOCA JUNIORS

from Eric Weil

RIVER PLATE beat Boca Juniors 1–0 in the leading classic of the Argentine first division to square their long-standing series at 48 wins each and 37 draws in 133 meetings since the start of professional soccer in 1931.

The match was poor and midfielder Francescoli, on whom River Plate rely a lot for playmaking, was heavily marked and, for once, did not find the net.

But the Uruguayan international scores in virtually every match and tops the scorers' table with 14 goals, followed by Perazzo (San Lorenzo) with 11. And River Plate tops the table by four points at the half-way stage without giving really outstanding performances.

The line-ups in the classic, in which Montenegro scored the only goal after 27 minutes and Boca's Passuci was sent off 17 minutes from the end, were as follows:

River Plate: Pumpido, Gordillo, Craiyacich, Ruggeri, Montenegro, Gorosito, Gallego, Morresi, Amuchastegui (Villazán), Francescoli, Alfaro (Rinaldi).

Boca Juniors: Gatti, Stafuzza, Brown, Fornes, Bordet, Olarticoechea, Pasucci, La Fata, Graciani (Herrera), Tapia, Torres (Giachello).

There was a 62,443 gate for the match — the highest of the season — but Argentine professional soccer continues in dire straights. Only 22,121 tickets were sold for the seven other first division matches that day.

Trailing River Plate by four points are newly promoted Deportivo Español, a workmanlike team with no stars which however hardly has enough power in attack to look like champion material. A further point behind are champions Argentinos Juniors who have not quite got back into the league rhythm since winning the Libertadores Cup — they have taken three points from their last four games — and now had their minds more on the World Club Cup clash with European Cup holders, Juventus, in Tokyo.

Fourth-placed San Lorenzo looked more serious challengers. After a poor start to the season they had gone 11 games without defeat — the longest unbeaten streak in the first division this season — but the hoped-for title fight between River Plate and Boca Juniors, which was expected to put some life into the championship, did not materialize. Boca Juniors had gone winless in their last six games . . . so the coach just had to go (the usual South American remedy).

The coach was much travelled Alfredo Di Stefano, the former River Plate and Real Madrid international centre-forward and he became the 41st coach to be fired by the club since the start of professional soccer in the country in 1931.

But unusual is the case of financially ailing Huracán who are also in serious relegation danger this season. They wanted to fire their coach, José Varacka, but couldn't because they had no money to pay out his contract and Varacka rightly refused to leave without the cash.

★ ★ ★

BRAZIL repatriated three of its international midfield stars from Italian soccer this season — at some considerable cost — but now two of them are sidelined by injuries and another has dropped into the reserves.

Flamengo, who brought back their former star, Zico, and also Socrates from Italy, are really out of luck. Zico, after a few games in which he failed to show his old form, needed a knee operation which was likely to keep him out of action for two months, while Socrates injured his ankle in training before even making his debut for his new team and was expected to be out for at least three months. Meanwhile Falcao also failed to recapture his old form with his new club, São Paulo, and has been relegated to the reserves.

Bangu, the modest club which inherited several million dollars from a former fan lead the second stage of the Guanabara (Rio) state league by three points from eternal rivals Flamengo and Fluminense with only two games to go. First stage winners Fluminense have already qualified for the final round in which they will face the second stage winners and the team to pick up most points in both stages.

São Paulo FC continues to top the São Paulo state league — two points ahead of Ferroviaria at press time.

★ ★ ★

NACIONAL and Peñarol, traditional rivals and virtually only title winners in Uruguayan soccer, played to an uneventful and technically poor 0–0 draw in the Uruguayan first division — considered by critics to have reached rock bottom in standards — but while the point put Peñarol top of the table, just ahead of a host of modest clubs, Nacional was left in the unaccustomed position of bottom.

Nacional continued to make the headlines, however.

A few days earlier, after Nacional had gone down 1–0 to Wanderers, the former's coach, Luis Cubilla, attacked the referee (Otelo Roberto) and managed to break his nose although being held back by players of both teams and also being attacked by a linesman who had run to the scene to defend the referee. For this Cubilla served a few days in jail and was suspended for 17 months by the Uruguayan FA.

Cubilla handed in his resignation, but Nacional officials did not accept it. He therefore continues training the players while his brother, Pedro, is on the bench for matches.

Nevertheless, Nacional officials got fed up with the poor performances of their team and sent all the players on holiday, deciding to finish the championship with junior reserves (amateurs). At press time, Nacional won their first match in eight — 3–1 against next-to-bottom Sud America — and moved off the foot of the table.

★ ★ ★

THE Chilean first division continued while the country's national team unsuccessfully played for a place in Mexico next year which meant that several clubs were notably weakened by the absence of internationals, but it did not seem to affect Cobreloa who had won their last five games in a row and led the table by two points with eight games to go.

Second was Everton who only dropped one point in their last five games. Otherwise there was little change in leading places with Cobresal and Union Española — joint third a further point back — and Colo Colo continuing as the closest title challengers.

Leading the individual scorers was Uruguayan centre-forward Nelson Peddetti of Cobresal with 12 goals.

★ ★ ★

UNIVERSIDAD Tecnica de Catamarja, one of the newer teams in the Peruvian championship, continued to lead the final de-centralised championship (by three points)

They were helped by the fact that their strong Lima challengers, Deportes Municipal, Alianza Lima and Universitario (in second, third and fourth place) were all weakened for several games by the absence of national team players as Peru played in the play-off for a place in Mexico.

UTC stretched their unbeaten run to 10 games in the championship before going down 2–1 to Melgar.

WITH four games played in the eight-team final round of the Colombian professional league, Deportivo Cali — coached by Yugoslav Vladimir Popovic — leads champions and town rivals America by half a point.

Actually Deportivo has gained one more point than their rivals — six out of eight — but they have one bonus point from the two preliminary championships, while America — coached by national team coach Ochoa Uribe — has one and a half.

★ ★ ★

BARCELONA of Guayaquil won five games in a row in Ecuador after former Chilean national team coach, Luis Santibañez — they call him "Locutin" — took over and led the eight-team final round by three points.

They were finally beaten 2–1 by Deportivo Quito with frequent Colombian scorer, Emilio Vilarete getting the winner. Vilarete has scored 10 goals in 12 games since coming to Ecuador, while Uruguayan Carlos De Lima, who plays for joint-second Universidad Catolica, is overall top league scorer with 20 goals.

Where do the Ecuadorians come in? . . . Nacional (Quito), one of four teams sharing second place and traditionally fielding only local players, are in contention to retain their title . . . but they have a Colombian coach, Leonel Montoya.

★ ★ ★

ESTUDIANTES, of Merida, top the table unbeaten (by one point) at the half-way stage of the six-team final round of the Venezuelan professional league which includes no teams from the capital, Caracas.

In the line-up, however, is Nacional (Carabobo), one of this season's newcomers who were earlier going to withdraw from the league.

★ ★ ★

MILTON MELGAR, of Blooming, became the second international to be suspended for a year by the disciplinary committee in Bolivia this season for attacking a referee.

The first was Ovidio Mezza, the strongest striker.

The decision has caused a lot of controversy as midfielder Melgar is one of the country's brightest stars and TV replays of the incident seemed to show that there had been no aggression.

BOCA goalkeeper Gatti watches helplessly as Montenegro's shot goes into the net for River Plate's winning goal in the Argentine first division 'Classic'.

ARGENTINA: National Championships 1967-1985

		Seas	J	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	River Plate	19	324	182	73	69	631	334	437
2	Independiente	19	313	163	79	71	596	357	405
3	Boca Juniors	19	290	160	59	71	522	314	379
4	Rosario Central	17	287	147	74	66	495	281	368
5	Velez Sarsfield	19	297	138	80	79	502	340	356
6	San Lorenzo de Almagro	18	285	132	88	65	517	323	352
7	Estudiantes (La Plata)	19	298	132	72	94	455	349	336
8	Newell's Old Boys (Rosario)	16	252	106	76	70	443	326	288
9	Ferro Carril Oeste	15	239	110	66	63	361	266	286
10	Talleres (Córdoba)	14	240	102	70	68	401	324	274
11	Huracán	17	245	106	60	79	415	330	272
12	Racing Club	17	265	96	72	97	403	379	264
13	Argentinos Juniors	15	224	98	59	67	370	315	255
14	Unión (Sante Fe) (x)	12	183	69	59	55	246	190	195
15	San Martín (Tucumán)	16	241	61	68	112	281	401	190
16	Colón (Sante Fe)	11	167	64	42	61	238	240	170
17	Chacarita Juniors (xx)	12	175	61	40	74	243	263	156
18	Belgrano (Córdoba)	10	137	59	37	41	212	180	155
19	Gimnasia y Esgrima (La Plata)	10	150	55	36	59	233	235	146
20	Atlético Tucumán	9	140	54	36	50	198	192	144
21	Atlanta	10	149	52	38	59	220	223	142
22	Platense (xxx)	12	171	46	48	77	199	274	138
23	San Martín (Mendoza)	9	138	47	41	50	190	225	135
24	Quilmes	8	127	51	26	50	165	173	128
25	Gimnasia y Esgrima (Mendoza)	9	121	42	38	41	174	175	122
26	Instituto (Córdoba)	8	109	44	29	36	160	130	117
27	Gimnasia y Esgrima (Jujuy)	8	134	38	39	57	160	218	115
28	Racing (Córdoba) (xxxx)	7	98	43	28	27	156	125	110
29	Banfield	7	112	39	29	44	188	181	107
30	San Lorenzo (Mar del Plata)	9	140	29	27	84	173	309	85
31	Independiente Rivadavia (Mendoza)	6	90	23	30	37	102	154	76
32	All Boys	7	109	23	28	58	124	202	74
33	Temperley	5	73	23	23	27	97	106	69
34	Central Norte (Salta)	7	96	22	25	49	91	169	69
35	Atlético Cipolletti (Río Negro)	6	81	17	22	42	92	153	56
36	Sportivo Desamparados (San Juan)	4	63	17	18	28	94	120	52
37	Altos Hornos Zapla (Jujuy)	6	73	15	21	37	74	123	51
38	Lanús	4	60	18	14	28	73	95	50
39	Atlético Ledesma (Jujuy)	5	64	15	18	31	74	105	48
40	Kimberley (Mar del Plata)	6	75	14	20	41	95	161	48
41	Chaco For Ever (Resistencia)	6	82	16	16	50	81	174	48
42	Aldosivi (Mar del Plata)	3	52	18	10	24	72	92	46
43	Guaraní Antonio Franco (Misiones)	4	52	13	14	25	57	84	40
44	Juventud Antoniana (Salta)	6	79	11	18	50	91	172	40
45	Loma Negra (Olavarría)	2	28	15	9	4	40	20	39
46	Huracán (Comodoro Rivadavia)	3	50	12	11	27	51	119	35
47	Atlético Concepción (Tucumán)	3	36	11	7	18	40	54	29
48	Deportivo Roca (Río Negro)	2	30	10	8	12	30	41	28
49	Sarmiento (Junín)	2	30	7	10	13	37	47	24
50	Renato Cesarini (Rosario)	2	28	7	8	13	35	47	22
51	Jorge Newberry (Junín)	2	34	5	12	17	23	43	22
52	Nueva Chicago	2	28	5	11	12	29	44	21
53	Central Córdoba (Santiago del Estero)	2	29	5	8	16	28	58	18
54	Los Andes	1	15	6	5	4	22	15	17
55	Juventud Alianza (San Juan)	2	24	8	1	15	33	58	17
56	Los Andes (San Juan)	1	14	6	4	4	22	19	16
57	Huracán (Bahía Blanca)	2	29	4	6	19	18	82	14
58	Patronato (Paraná)	1	14	4	5	5	17	21	13
59	Estudiantes (Río Cuarto)	3	21	4	5	12	27	39	13
60	San Martín (San Juan)	1	20	4	5	11	27	47	13
61	Huracán (San Rafael)	2	32	2	9	21	26	82	13
62	Deportivo Español	1	10	5	2	3	14	13	12
63	Estudiantes (Buenos Aires)	1	14	3	6	5	15	22	12
64	Sarmiento (Resistencia)	1	14	4	4	6	18	29	12
65	Sportivo Patria (Formosa)	1	18	4	4	10	24	37	12
66	Atlético Regina (Río Negro)	1	18	3	6	9	13	30	12
67	Gimnasia y Tiro (Salta)	2	28	2	8	18	19	63	12
68	Alianza Juventud Unida (San Luis)	1	14	3	5	6	15	21	11
69	Unión San Vicente (Córdoba)	3	28	1	9	18	27	66	11
70	Huracán (Las Heras)	1	9	3	4	2	15	14	10
71	Alvarado (Mar del Plata)	1	14	3	4	7	20	28	10
72	Mandiyú (Corrientes)	1	18	3	4	11	20	37	10
73	Círculo Deportivo (Nicanor Otamendi)	2	22	2	5	15	15	38	9
74	Olimpo (Bahía Blanca)	1	8	3	2	3	10	10	8
75	Don Orione (Resistencia)	1	14	4	0	10	16	34	8
76	Godoy Cruz (Mendoza)	1	18	3	2	13	15	35	8
77	Argentino de Firmat	1	8	3	1	4	7	13	7
78	Ramón Santamarina (Tandil)	1	9	2	2	5	9	13	6
79	Unión (General Pinedo)	1	6	0	5	1	6	7	5
80	Bartolomé Mitre (Misiones)	2	29	1	3	25	21	88	5
81	Estudiantes (Santiago del Estero)	1	16	1	2	13	13	40	4
82	San Telmo	1	16	1	2	13	15	46	4
83	Puerto Comercial (Bahía Blanca)	1	18	2	0	16	14	75	4
84	Independiente (Trelew)	1	13	0	3	10	10	46	3
85	Ferro Carril Oeste (General Pico)	1	6	0	2	4	6	12	2
86	Andino (La Rioja)	1	6	1	0	5	3	13	2
87	Mariano Moreno (Junín)	1	16	0	2	14	11	53	2
88	Atlético Uruguay (Entre Ríos)	1	6	0	1	5	2	24	1
89	Atlético Santa Rosa (La Pampa)	1	6	0	0	6	4	24	0

(x) Unión had 2 pts deducted in 1969
(xx) Chacarita had 6 pts deducted in 1984
(xxx) Paltense had 2 pts deducted in 1970
(xxxx) Racing (Córdoba) had 4 pts deducted in 1981
Note: If nothing else is stated (in brackets), the teams are from Buenos Aires or its surroundings.

ARGENTINE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

1967 Independiente	1977 Independiente
1968 Velez Sarsfield	1978 Independiente
1969 Boca Juniors	1979 River Plate
1970 Boca Juniors	1980 Rosario Central
1971 Rosario Central	1981 River Plate
1972 San Lorenzo	1982 FC Oeste
1973 Rosario Central	1983 Estudiantes de La Plata
1974 San Lorenzo	1984 FC Oeste
1975 River Plate	1985 Argentinos Juniors
1976 Boca Juniors	

Total wins: 3 — River Plate, Independiente, Rosario Central, Boca Juniors; 2 — San Lorenzo, FC Oeste; 1 — Estudiantes de La Plata, Argentinos Juniors.

United caught before the kill

by Derick Allsop

THE one-horse race has suddenly become an open Championship again — and English football is breathing a sigh of relief.

Manchester United's blistering start to the season threatened to kill the title contest before most of the potential rivals had even managed to get into their stride.

United's spectacular shows ensured box office bonanza days wherever they appeared and Old Trafford, of course, was packing in 50,000-plus crowds. But football in England has arrived at a critical point and, much as it needs a healthy United, it cannot afford to lose the competitive element of its League Championship.

So, as United stumbled and the others, Liverpool in particular, caught up, there were very few groans of disappointment in the country at large.

Over the course of three November Saturdays, United's 10-point lead was slashed to a mere two. What's more, they couldn't muster a single goal in that miserable spell. They suffered their first defeat of the season at Sheffield Wednesday, a late Lee Chapman goal proving decisive. The following week Tottenham held them to a goalless draw at Old Trafford.

Seven days later came the most painful body blow. They were away to modest Leicester City and found themselves three goals down by half-time and, although they averted further indignity in the second half, could do nothing to salvage anything positive.

Injuries to Arthur Albiston and Mark Hughes piled on the suffering for a team already without Bryan Robson, Remi Moses, Peter Barnes and Mike Duxbury. Manager Ron Atkinson went scurrying into the transfer market to buy Aston Villa's Colin Gibson for £275,000 to fill the left-back position but the player was not available for the Milk Cup-tie at Liverpool the following Tuesday.

There they took the lead through a splendid goal by Paul McGrath, only to be beaten by Jan Molby's second half blast.

The Dane, who has emerged as a key figure in Liverpool's campaign, equalised with what United goalkeeper Gary Bailey described as the hardest shot he had ever faced. Before Bailey and his colleagues could recover Molby had put Liverpool ahead from the penalty spot. Kevin Moran handled, and though he protested the offence was committed outside the area, a linesman indicated it was a penalty.

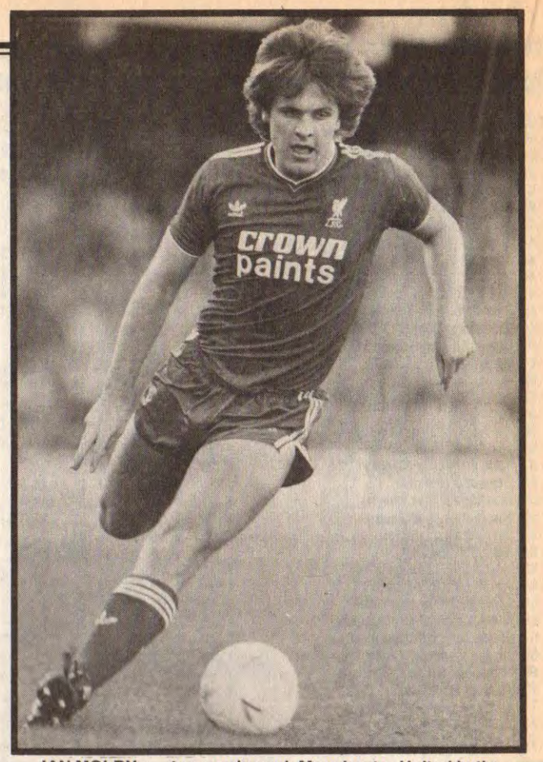
Despite United's spirited late rally Kenny Dalglish's side held on for a 2-1 win and shook off the Atkinson jinx. But then nothing, it seemed, was going Atkinson's way at the time, while everything had turned rosy for Dalglish.

United's fall coincided with Liverpool's rise. A run of seven wins provided conclusive evidence that the club was again equipped to master the English game. Appointing Dalglish player-manager was, on the face of it, a massive gamble. The dual role is a hefty burden at any level, but here, at the very top, it has to be a near impossible task.

Dalglish, however, had his old boss Bob Paisley alongside to lend a guiding hand and, in the event, found himself forced out of the side as they reached peak form. Paul Walsh, so frustrated early in the season he demanded a move, came back into the team with a flurry of goals and struck up a productive partnership with Ian Rush.

So Dalglish, who made his 99th appearance for Scotland in the 2-0 World Cup win against Australia at Hampden Park, relegated himself to the squabble for the No. 12 Liverpool shirt. Under Dalglish, Molby has demonstrated the kind of quality many doubted would flourish in England and Craig Johnston, too, has found fresh optimism.

One man who certainly doesn't question Dalglish's managerial potential is Atkinson. "From what I have seen I am very impressed," said the United boss.



JAN MOLBY . . . two goals sank Manchester United in the Milk Cup.

"In fact the thought of what he might be able to achieve is quite frightening. He could end up being as great as anyone before him."

Paisley, the most successful manager in the history of English soccer, is equally convinced of Dalglish's managerial credentials. The old sage said: "It's true that a lot of great players have failed as managers, but with Kenny it is a different case. He was, and still is, a great player. But he is not just an individual.

"What makes Kenny so good as a player is that he brings other players into the game. He is a team player as well as a player with great individual skills. He reads the game so well, he understands the game so well that, as a manager, he has the overall awareness that perhaps some of the other great players didn't have.

"I am here to help him when I can, to make a suggestion here and there, but the hardest part for me is to try to keep him playing!"

Dalglish himself, never so expressive with words as with a football, plays down his work and his part in the dramatic charge of his team.

"Other people can speculate," he said. "We can only try to help ourselves and that is just what we have done recently. I think the lads have been magnificent over the past few weeks."

United, meanwhile, were putting on a brave face. They were, after all, still two points clear of Liverpool in the League and had been severely handicapped by a series of injuries. Atkinson said: "The only bad defeat was at Leicester and for them it was like a Cup final. Our general play has been good and we are still in a more than useful position.

"We never said it was a one-horse race. We stressed all along that there was a long way to go and there is still a long way to go.

"Right from the start of the season I expected our biggest threat to come from Merseyside, so Liverpool's run doesn't surprise me in the least. They are a quality team with quality players. But then so are we. We will be in there battling to the end and one thing at least I can promise you now — we won't be relegated!"

At the time of writing Chelsea were third, four points behind Liverpool, and West Ham, fired by the goals of Scot Frank McAvennie, were fourth, a point further back.

Tottenham, the team most people expected to challenge the north-west giants on London's behalf, were toiling in mid-table, struggling to find their stride and bring in the crowds.

Information desk

A BOOK specialising in the history of the Football Association of Ireland Cup — the Irish Republic version, that is — might not easily appear among the recommendations of the year.

But while the *Gillette Book of the FAI Cup* (Irish Soccer Co-op, 3 Lynwood, Dundrum, Dublin 16; Irish £5.95) contains all the necessary statistical back-up to make it conform to the historians' needs, it also contains a wealth of superb background stories.

Authors Sean Ryan and Terry O'Rourke bring a light touch to the subject, introduce the less well-informed reader to some of the great characters of Irish football, relive the controversies, and describe the "illegal" goals.

It's not just football history, there's a little bit of Irish social history too. For instance, the aftermath of the 1922 final featured a dressing-room invasion which was quelled only when one of the player's brothers produced a revolver which had but recently seen service for the IRA.

A revolver features in a much later story, too. That was in the 1978 tale of how Steve Lynex — now a first division player in England with Leicester — was informed that he wasn't welcome in Sligo while on trial with Rovers there. Subsequently he signed for Shamrock Rovers and was the central figure in a penalty incident which helped them beat Sligo in a cup final.

And how about the Brideville team which pooled its Second World War clothing coupons to kit themselves out for an important cup-tie away to Shamrock?

The book is full of tales like that and well worth reading.

Still on a statistical note are the two latest mainland offerings from Newnes (84-88 The Centre, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4BH). The one is the *League Club Directory 1986*, edited by Tony Williams and published at £6.95 softcover and £9.95 hardback.

We praised this effort last year and hopefully the second edition will have ironed out a few of the starting mistakes to which all such books are prone while so much information is being collated.

Each club in the four divisions of the Football League is spread over six pages, detailing background information, full players' career records, transfer fees, birthdates, appearances in the various senior competitions and so on.

Not a few newspaper reporters replaced their Rothmans with the *League Club Directory* last season for use at matches. Hardly surprising. The price is competitive, the information well-detailed and laid-out. Historical material is absent. But then, that's the price you pay for the price you pay!

IN REPLY TO . . .

Louis Donaldson, Wigtownshire, Scotland: Fixtures for the domestic seasons in Austria (first half), Belgium, Holland, Italy, Portugal (first half), Spain and West Germany were all included in the September edition of *World Soccer*.

Robert Hudson, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire: The only English-language book published in recent years about African football is *In the Big League* (£1.75 from Afropress Executives, Unit 13, 1/3 Roseberry Place, London E8 3DD). The only English-language book dealing with South American (and some African) club football is the *World Club Directory* (Queen Anne Press, Maxwell House, 74 Worship Street, London EC2A 3EN; at £7.95).

Chris Kunz, Chifley, Australia: On March 3, 1976, Benfica and Bayern Munich drew 0-0 in Lisbon in a Champions' Cup quarter-final first leg. Bayern won the return 5-1 and went on to retain the Cup.

● *Continued from page 5*

bad as Scotland's. We couldn't have picked a worse team than Algeria from the minnows, and Spain have proved tough for us in recent years. We have done well against them, but it has required tremendous effort."

Sammy McIlroy, the Manchester City midfield player who has taken over from O'Neill as team leader, sent a blunt message to his team-mates: "I don't want to hear any defeatist talk." He said: "I fancy us to finish second in the group. We have one-up on Spain, and for the other two games it's a case of knuckling down — and we've proved pretty good at doing that in the past."

Cayetano Re, the **Paraguay** manager who threatened to quit once his men had achieved their place in the finals, is clearly set to stay on. He said: "We have no complaints about our group. Mexico will be the most difficult opponents because they're the hosts. As for Iraq, that one has taken me a bit by surprise. I know absolutely nothing about them."

Top defender Rogelio Delgado said: "We have a good chance of reaching the second round. I don't think we are inferior to any of the other teams in the group."

If history means anything then Paraguay can look back happily to the first World Cup finals, in Uruguay, in 1930, when they beat Belgium 1-0. On the other hand, Mexico knocked them out of the 1962 World Cup in the qualifiers.

Paraguayan officials also couldn't understand English reluctance to go to Monterrey. One federation official said: "We would have been very happy to go there. Conditions would have been ideal, both in terms of altitude and heat."

Polish officials weren't so sure. Waldemar Krajewski said: "It will be very difficult for us. Not only because of the problem with the heat but because of the class of the teams we must play."

While the London *Daily Mail* described the Monterrey draw as "Into the inferno," the Polish agency PAP described the city as "the hell of Mexico." Sports reporters, it seems, must brush up on their Dante to do justice to the place!

Scotland boss Alex Ferguson — putting on his international hat instead of his Aberdeen one — thought the prospect of facing West Germany, Uruguay and Denmark had provided his men with "the toughest draw of the lot."

But he found a silver lining in that competitive cloud, adding: "At least this will ensure we don't go to Mexico overburdened with optimism, thinking there will be easy points. That's proved our downfall in past World Cups. We have a lot of work to do before we go out there but our fans can be quite sure that I shall endeavour to do all we can to acquaint ourselves with the opposition."

This was clearly an oblique reference to the 1978 campaign in Argentina, a Scottish disaster in which Ally Macleod's men were totally unprepared for the style of opposition offered by both Peru and Iran.

Predictably, **Spain's** Miguel Munoz immediately picked out Brazil as their toughest opponents, despite painful memories of the 1982 Valencia defeat at the hands of Northern Ireland. Spain play Brazil in their first game but Munoz said: "Because it is the first match for both teams perhaps we can surprise them. A good performance will give us some momentum. Northern Ireland will be difficult of course, but we think we can beat them. It's the Brazil game which will be the key."

Spain have met Brazil five times, on four occasions in the World Cup. Spain won 3-1 in 1934 but lost 6-1 in 1950, 2-1 in 1962 and drew 0-0 in 1978 — a match sadly memorable for Spanish fans because Betis midfielder Julio Cardenosa missed a wide open goal. The last time the teams met was a friendly in 1981 which Spain won 1-0.

A warning note not to write off the unfashionable finalists came from **Soviet Union** official Vyacheslav Koloskov. He said: "Ours looks a very even group. We must not discount Canada. I wouldn't be surprised if they upset everybody's calculations."

Omar Borras, manager of **Uruguay,** couldn't understand "how Denmark could be included in the 'hat' of the supposedly weaker teams." But he added: "Sooner or later we would have to face them so it's better at the start because that will make our task a little easier assuming we get through to the knock-out stages."

Uruguay have played West Germany twice in the World Cup, losing both in the 1966 quarter-finals (by 4-0) and in the third-place play-off in 1970 in Mexico (by 1-0). But the Uruguayans thrashed Scotland 7-0 on their only previous meeting in the World Cup, in Switzerland in 1954.

Borras plans to take his squad to Colombia several weeks before the finals to prepare at altitude. Borras added: "We drew the most difficult group. But if we can overcome these opponents at the start then we will have nothing to fear from anyone else. I can't deny it will be difficult but I'm optimistic."

Finally, **West Germany's** Franz Beckenbauer saw both sides of the coin, considering this same group. Beckenbauer said: "We are happy to be based in Queretaro. It's a beautiful city, the people are very nice and helpful. The hotel we have already chosen is wonderful. So we're very satisfied — apart from the teams in our group.

"Uruguay will be the hardest of the three. We will need a lot of luck to survive that match."

Erich Ribbeck, a former DFB staff coach who is now boss at Bayer Leverkusen, looked on the bright side. He said: "A tough start could be just right for us. In the past we have lost against so-called weaker opponents in our early games — as we did against Algeria in Spain. Now we'll have to concentrate hard right from the start."

Top striker Rudi Völler was glad about the pairing with Denmark, that'll be a special event. I'm happy too about facing Uruguay since I'm sure we would have found it much more difficult if we'd had to play England."

World Soccer Diary compiled by Robert Alexander

ALLISON AIMS AT 1990

WHILE the rest of the world prepares itself for the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico, one man in Kuwait is busy aiming at more distant horizons — the 1990 finals . . . flamboyant Englishman Malcom Allison.

Allison, one of Europe's most widely-travelled and experienced coaches, started working with Kuwait's national team last June following a 12-year dynasty of Brazilians who had led to the the oil-rich nation being dubbed "Little Brazil" in the soccer world.

But it has, as usual, been an eventful time for Allison, who continues to maintain his cigar-smoking larger-than-life image wherever he goes.

After reaching the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain where they won praise for their imaginative play, Kuwait have fallen backwards in world soccer. They have suffered troubles both on and off the field. And they have failed to qualify for Mexico.

As a resutl, three different national coaches have been appointed and discarded in as many years . . . can Allison, veteran of so many bust-ups and headlines in a career of controversy and brilliance, survive again?

Last year, Kuwait's domestic game was thrown into chaos by a strike by the referees after player and spectator violence had reached unacceptable levels. More recently, the soccer federation was at the centre of a big scandal over abuse of state funds involving millions of dollars.

But Allison is unperturbed. "I've never had any fears in football. I've no fear of working with foreign players," he said. "The view of the federation is to build a team for 1990 for the World Cup and that is what I am aiming to do. From there we go on to the Asian Cup, in 1986, and the Olympic Games in 1988."

A more immediate aim is to build a Kuwait team capable of recovering the Gulf Cup in Bahrain next March. A win would be Kuwait's fourth.

His chances are good. Brazilians are out of fashion in the Gulf and out of fashion in Arab football. His immediate predecessor was Perreira Miguel. He joined a growing list of Brazilian coaching casualties when he was replaced last year. Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Oman have also removed their Brazilians in the last 18 months.

Allison says the scandal surrounding the federation should not be a problem or a distraction to him or his players.

In November, the federation secretary-general Mohammed Jassem was convicted of embezzling about $250,000 by forging contracts for coaches and then pocketing the Government's money. The scandal is immense. The National Assembly — the only elected Parliament in the Arabian peninsula — has called for an urgent report on the alleged malpractices within Kuwait's soccer and Olympic sports bodies.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour earlier this year instructed the soccer federation to explain "financial inproprieties" to the tune of $4.5 million. These included expenses of about $1 million for the cost of return tickets to Rio de Janeiro for a training camp and tournament it says never took place.

At least Allison cannot be accused of any involvement in all this. His arrival and his only newly-acquired basic grasp of Arabic (which he is learning although many Kuwaits speak English) are giving him enough problems of his own, thank you.

Allison is pleased with life, however, in spite of everything. The facilities in Kuwait are superb, he said. "And the Kuwaitis are very enthusiastic about soccer. I hope to build a good side here."

★ ★ ★

You cannot win them all . . . Hamburg manager Günter Netzer, inspired by rave reports about Polish international striker Miroslaw Okonski of Zech Poznan, flew to Poland to sign the player. He made a bid of more the £80,000 and thought it would be enough but was surprised to find the bid rejected and his trip wasted.

Okonski, 27, who has won 28 caps, was valued at a much bigger fee by Poznan. A sign that the Poles, like everyone else, are learning how to make the most of the transfer market?

★ ★ ★

FRANKFURT is the favourite city to be picked as the venue for the draw of the 1988 European Championships in West Germany, a UEFA spokesman is reported to have said last month. The spokesman said the exact venue was not yet decided but the draw would take place on February 14. Strange isn't it how drawn out and complex these sort of arrangements are becoming?

All 34 UEFA member-associations will be represented, by the way, with the exception of Liechtenstein, who have not entered the tournament. It is planned that there will be seven groups of four or five teams in the qualifying tournament. West Germany will automatically play in the finals.

★ ★ ★

AUSSIE manager Frank Arok must have been on a sure-fire winner when he offered his players a $5,000 dollars prize to anyone who hit a hat-trick in the World Cup play-off second leg against Scotland.

Had he had to fork the cash out of his own pocket, there is little doubt that he would have been comfortably reimbursed by the bonuses his squad and his hat-trickster would have won him for qualifying for Mexico, not to mention the commercial spin-offs such a coup would have brought!

★ ★ ★

WHAT kind of game are we talking about when the manager of a team says in advance of a vital match — "This is the last game in the qualifying section and we're not going to accommodate yellow cards any more . . . We will try to intimidate, the same way as anyone else in this kind of game.

"Hopefully, the players will be the mad dogs this time, not me."

(Frank Arok, Australian coach, before his team met Scotland in their World Cup qualifying second-leg play-off).

MOUNTED police with a difference . . . to greet Malcolm Allison in Kuwait!

Can it be that skill, goals and entertainment and joy have been altogether forgotten in some parts of the soccer world?

★ ★ ★

WILD street celebrations followed Iraq's success in beating Syria and qualifying for the 1986 World Cup finals. Red tracers flew into the sky and there was a carnival atmosphere at the airport when the team flew in from the Saudi resort of Taif, where the game was played.

But it is hard not to reflect on what the scenes might have been if the Iraqis has not qualified . . . One Iraqi sports daily had warned on the morning of the game that if . . . "In case of loss, God forbid, the people will not stand idle but will pelt those who disappoint their hopes with tomatoes and bottles."

★ ★ ★

THERE was more than a little sadness at seeing Holland removed from the World Cup at the end of November when they were beaten on away goals by Belgium in their play-off. Apart from losing the possibility of another great Dutch side emerging during the 1986 finals, (few could have expected them to have performed quite as startlingly well in either 1974 or 1978 as they did) it also meant a severance of our last link with these two great Dutch teams.

The World Cup defeat was soon followed by the international retirement of Willy Van der Kerkhof, 35, after 65 international appearances including the 1978 Final.

Willy, however, did not share the general pessimism about the decline of Dutch soccer. He said: "It's not so bad. Technically, we are still very good, but on the physical side we are not strong enough. We have to plan now for 1990."

Could there be a possibility that Johan Cruyff, who is bringing Ajax back to the boil with an unpredictable flood of goals, will be given the chance to do for Holland what Franz Beckenbauer, his rival captain in the 1974 Final, has been trying to do for West Germany?

★ ★ ★

BRIAN CLOUGH has found that the personal touch works wonders when it comes to making money for Nottingham Forest.

At the annual meeting at the end of October, Clough criticised director Derek Pavis because his Home Centres firm had an advert board sited at neighbouring Trent Bridge cricket ground, but not in the Forest stadium.

At the end of the meeting Pavis — coincidentally voted out after ten years as committee man and director — said he would put up a board in the City Ground . . . if Clough did.

Just three days later, Forest's directors took their seat to find, directly opposite them, over the centre line, a bright red advert board bearing the inscription: "Brian Clough Ltd." Clough had paid £1,000-plus out of his own pocket to install the board to leave no one in any doubt about the Big Name at the City Ground.

Pavis duly kept his word and followed suit. His advert board is more discreet, tucked away by a corner flag.

But raising bigger sums is not so easy in the wake of the year's disasters, which are now being reflected in financial terms.

Tottenham have postponed a £3 million development — and so have Elton John's Watford, who had planned to start work at the end of the season on a new West Stand plus covering for the Vicarage Road End.

John said: "The basic reason for the postponement is lack of finance. I have pledged £1 million to the project, but the overall cost of the redevelopment will amount to a sum well in excess of £3 million, and the club simply cannot raise the balance. There are several reasons for this, not least of which is the generally poor financial climate of football at present, with attendances and therefore revenue down and a lack of income from television and consequent advertising.

"In addition, we have had to spend large amounts of money on the present stadium in recent months as a result of recommendations made in the Popplewell Inquiry on crowd control and ground safety. We also did not raise as much money as we hoped from the rights issue made earlier this season to existing shareholders. We were aiming to raise £100,000, but only realised £35,000 — half of which came from my co-directors.

"The Alcohol Bill has bitten hard into our expected earnings from the new stand, as we had planned to build 32 executive boxes. But with patrons unable to consume alcohol in them, we realise the boxes would not be attractive investments, especially to businesses.

"We put these complaints very forcibly to Dick Tracey, the Minister of Sport, on his recent visit. The anomaly of the Government's present views on football is that on the one hand, they are encouraging clubs to bring back the fans by providing better facilities, while on the other hand they are passing legislation in direct contradictions to these views.

"The originally intended stand would have contained 7,000 seats and 32 executive boxes, but I want to make it quite clear that the redevelopment plans have only been postponed — not abandoned.

"The directors, the club's management team and myself are committed to building a stadium for Watford that is worthy of our status in the first division. And we are not ruling out the possibility that the stadium might not be at Vicarage Road. About eight years ago, we looked at re-siting the stadium, but then we were a fourth division club and on and off the field, we have gone through a radical metamorphosis since then. We still feel that the Vicarage Road Stadium smacks of a lower division ground, and we are determined to change that, whether it be here or elsewhere."

★ ★ ★

GOLDEN Boot leaders — Protassov (Dnepr) 35 goals; Bastrup (Ikast) and Van Basten (Ajax) 20 each; Lius (Ilves) 19; Krankl and Kranjcar (both Rapid Vienna) 18 each; Nielsen (Brondby), Pedersen (Esbjerg) and Nyilasi (FK Austria) 17 each; Simonsen (Vejle), Detari (Honved), McAvennie (West Ham), Tanju Colak (Samsunspor) and Polster (FK Austria) 16 each; Norager (B 1903 Copenhagen), Bordingaard (Odense) 15 each.

★ ★ ★

OBITUARY — *Angel Zubieta.* One of the most popular and respected figures to link Spanish and Argentine football died, aged 67, in the Espanol hospital in Buenos Aires after heart trouble. Zubieta was born on July 18, 1918, in Galdacano in the Spanish Basque province. At 16 he became a first-team player with Athletic Bibao and made his debut for Spain at the age of 17 on April 26, 1936, in a 1-0 defeat by Czechoslovakia in Prague. A week later Zubieta, who remains Spain's youngest-ever international, played the second and last international match of his career. Again in the old-fashioned 'wide' right-half position, he finished on the winning side as Spain beat Switzerland 2-0 in Berne. The arrival of the Spanish civil war meant Spain did not play another international for five years.

When fighting broke out Zubieta and his Bilbao team-mates were on tour in South and Central America. They played a number of matches raising funds to aid the Basque civil war effort and several of the best players joined the Espana club and played in the 1937 Mexican championship. Tour matches in Argentina brought offers from the big Buenos Aires clubs: Blasco, Cilaurren and Areso joined River Plate while star forwards Isidro Langara as well as right-back Zubieta signed for San Lorenzo. The club were laying the foundations for the fine team nicknamed El Ciclon (The Cyclone) and which so impressed on European tours in the late 1940s.

Apart from Zubieta, controlling defence from right-back, they had outstanding forwards such as Rinaldo Martino (later Juventus), Rene Pontoni and Mario Imbelloni as well as Waldemar De Brito, the Brazilian who would later discover Pele. Zubieta made his debut for San Lorenzo in 1939 in a 4-2 win over Estudiates and played his last game in a 3-2 defeat by Atlanta in October, 1952. He scored 28 goals (19 of them penalties) in 354 games — a record overtaken only by Roberto Telch only in 1975.

In 1952 San Lorenzo gave Zubieta a free transfer and he returned to Spain at last to play for, and then train, La Coruna. He worked in Argentina with Huracan and Deportivo Espanol as well as back in Spain with Valladolid and Bilbao, for whom he discovered the great goalkeeper Jose Iribar. Zubieta also coached Belenenses (Portugal), Jaen and Atlanta of Mexico, as well as guiding Jorge Wilsterman to the Bolivian championship.

The Month Ahead

JANUARY 4
Cup of the Alps final: Auxerre v Monaco.

JANUARY 9
European club cups' quarter-final draw (in Zurich).

Franz will not accept second term

FRANZ BECKENBAUER, West Germany's team chief without an official title because he doesn't hold a coaching licence, may see out his contract which has less than a year to run, but it is extremely doubtful if he will want to remain at the helm for another spell in an office which has become a tight rope.

After six matches without a win — the worst run in postwar history — not only the fans are restless. Now even some players so far loyal to the country's record capped player are beginning to voice criticism of Beckenbauer's methods of selection and tactics.

The national team boss has discarded experienced players and then brought them back. He experimented with teenagers, dropped them and recalled them again. He has changed the pattern of play, announced a rejuvenation of the side, but then returned to the old hands constantly switching his formation. All this uncertainty has unsettled the team now badly in need of a morale boosting victory.

Only because the national side qualified for the World Cup finals and because "Kaiser Franz," now 40, is still emormously popular, there have (not yet) been any direct demands in the media for his removal. Clearly any other team manager with his recent record of four defeats and two draws would have been swept out of office by a tide of deafeningly loud disapproval.

But the fans have already voted with massive absenteeism. Only 22,000 (a figure apparently inflated!) watched admittedly in below freezing temperatures the last World Cup qualifying tie with Czechoslovakia in Munich — the second lowest home attendance in postwar history of German internationals.

Only the Hungary match in Hamburg in 1983 drew fewer fans (21,000). It was also claimed that most sports fans preferred to watch the other German-Czech confrontation between Becker and Lendl at tennis shown live on television at the same time.

With only three minutes remaining captain Karl-Heinz Rummenigge scrambled home the face-saving equaliser. He thus moved ahead of the legendary Uwe Seeler's total of 43 international goals and now only the great Gerd Müller stands in front of Kalle with 68 goals. This was just about the only redeeming feature of yet another disappointing German performance.

Yet it all began so well. After just 44 seconds Brehme hammered a free kick precisely into the corner of the net to put the Germans one up. But in an awful second half the modest Czechoslovaks hit back with two goals from two chances and only that late strike saved the draw.

Beckenbauer gambled on Augenthaler as sweeper in place of Herget and the two 19-year-ols Olaf Thon from Schalke and Ludwig Kögl from Bayern Munich, but neither was a success. The new midfields of Thon, Rolff (Hamburger SV) and Allgöwer (VfB Stuttgart) was non-existent as a spring board to start attacking moves. There was always too much running and not enough planned combined actions.

The plain fact is that the Germans need someone like Bernd Schuster but stories that Beckenbauer has asked the England team manager of CF Barcelona, Terry Venables to mediate between him and Schuster over the wayward star's return to the national side have been discounted by the DFB officials.

Up front too, there is no one in the continued absence of Rudi Völler who could adequately replace this ace marksman, but also provider of chances. Rummenigge has lost some of his sharpness in front of goal, besides he doesn't get the kind of service on which he thrives. Still, he did score the equaliser so perhaps this will boost his confidence.

Beckenbauer is pessimistic with regards to the World Cup.

He says: "Brazil, Argentina, France and Italy are technically better than us, we come next with Russia and Denmark," and such comments have not exactly endeared him to the fans either.

More than perhaps any other nation, bar Brazil, the Germans expect a winning national side. They have always qualified for World Cup finals and have done well. And so they have in European Championships. In the 1970s they enjoyed unprecedented success in world football, so that now the fans expect it as of right. While many countries would have been revelling in just qualifying for the major tournaments, the Germans expect to win them.

This too, is a dilemma which Beckenbauer himself a member of those glorious teams who won both the world and European titles and also finished runners up in both, must now solve if he is not to be remem-

GATES FALL IN AUSTRIA

reports from ARTHUR ROTMIL

AUSTRIAN football laments the biggest drop in attendances in Europe over the past four years. In the 1980-81 season the average gate at a First Division match was 5,104. Last term it slumped to 2,613 — a net loss of 48.8 per cent.

In the new reduced 12-team league the interest is not much greater and it is feared that some clubs will fold, others will have to sell their best players, probably abroad to make ends meet.

After 19 championship rounds FK Austria established themselves as clear leaders thanks to a crushing 5-1 win on the ground of their bitterest rivals Rapid. A rare 16,000 crowd saw a fierce contest in which the Rapidler complained just about everything. Eventually their captain Hans Krankl was sent off for insulting the referee.

Scenes

There is something rotten behind the scenes at Hütteldorf. Striker Peter Pacult accuses team manager Zlatko Markovic of giving preference to his Yugoslav compatriots Brucic, Kranjcar and Halilovic no matter how badly they play. Rapid are said to be fed up with some of their overpaid stars. In the match with Sturm Graz they fielded Franz Weber, Franz and Leopold Rotter and Andreas Heraf, four home-grown talents. They had to leave out the unavailable, or off-form Krankl, Willfurth, Kienast and Weinhofer.

Linzer ASK are also showing the way by using five players from their own junior ranks. A welcome change from those clubs who are looking for success from "second hand"' foreigners. Linz's Felix Gasselich who was formerly with FK Austria then went to Ajax Amsterdam, is not yet 100 per cent fit.

"I need a while before I can last a full 90 minutes," says the former international midfielder who is still hoping for a comeback in the national side.

FK Austria meanwhile are worried about their 'keeper Franz Wohlfahrt; he suffered a nervous breakdown just before the European Cup tie v. Bayern in Munich. He will at least not have to be operated on for cartilage trouble. The champions were disappointed with some earlier displays by the Hungarian star Tibor Nyilasi, but two hat-tricks in successive matches silenced the critics.

Better news for national team manager Branko Elsner. Rapid's sweeper Heribert Weber has decided to return to the national squad and made himself available for the friendly v. Spain in Zaragoza which ended 0-0. He replaced Bruno Pezzey who was not released by his West German club Werder Bremen who had a league match on the same day.

Reserve

Elsner is really scraping the barrel for he picked unknowns like Andreas Orgis (not so long ago a reserve at FK Austria), Manfred Kern (Admira/Wacker) and Piesinger (Linz) into the squad. Back in the reckoning were goalkeeper Klaus Lindenberger (LASK), Peter Pacult (Rapid) and Toni Polster (FK Austria).

bered as a great player but but failure as coach. He is now pinning his hopes on the likes of Völler, Matthäus, Herget and Berthold who it is expected, will strengthen the side.

Incidentally, Germany's worst ever run stands at 10 games without a win from 1912 (interrupted by World War I) till 1920. Seven internationals without success were played in the 1930-31 season; six without a win in 1924-25, all in sequence of course.

The poor perfromance of he national side are partly compensated in the good showing of the European Cup competitions. Both Bayern Munich and Bayer Uerdingen reached the quarter-finals of the two most prestigious tournaments. Köln (Cologne) and Borussia Mönchengladbach played in the Third Round of the UEFA-Cup. But crowds were down again in the Bundesliga also due to the bad weather which brought an early winter scene with severest frost and snow in many parts.

The DFB spent £50,000 on a survey to find out why the fans are staying away. Football supporters who were asked for a spontaneous answer as to why they no longer go to watch soccer matches claimed that the high costs of admission had put them off (22 per cent). Next reason were poor performances (19 per cent). Lack of time and interest, high cost of travel and long journeys were also mentioned and so were hooligans (9 per cent).

But when actual reasons were suggested to them, 57 per cent confirmed the high admission prices, while 52 per cent agreed that it was rowdyism and 51 per cent blamed poor football. In a separate poll 24 per cent of those asked preferred to watch football on televison, while 17 per cent claimed to be active sportsmen.

The question of admission charges is certainly interesting for seats cost on average £4.50, while standing accommodation at £2.50 is hardly expensive by European standards.

In the Bundesliga, leaders Werder Bremen held off the challenge of their nearest rivals Borussia Mönchengladbach by winning away 2-1. The Bremer welcomed back Rudi Völler, but in the next match they crashed to defending champions Bayern Munich in the Olympic stadium 3-1. It was a brutal encounter in which Bayern's Matthäus was sent off. Völler was hacked down in full flight by Augenthaler and was put out of action for six week. Augenthaler was merely shown the yellow card. But when Matthäus retaliated against Pezzey the referee had no hesitation to show the midfielder the way to an early bath. The 40,000 crowd was stunned, but cheered on the ten-man Bayern side to victory. Their hero was old-timer Dieter Hoeness who replaced Kögl and scored twice.

Bayern created a little bit of history by releasing the Danish midfielder Sören Lerby to play in a World Cup qualifying tie in Dublin against the Republic of Ireland, but then whisked him off in the second half (57th minute) to the airport and by private jet to Düsseldorf.

From there he joined his team mates and came on as substitute (46) in the DFB-Cup tie at VfL Bochum! The quarter-final pairings were going to be: Borussia Dortmund v. SV Sandhausen (amateurs); VfB Stuttgart v. Schalke; Ulm or Kaiserslautern v. Bayern Munich or VfL Bochum (first game 1-1) and Bayer Leverkusen v. Waldhof Mannheim.

Bayern's 2-4 defeat at UEFA-Cup heroes Borussia Mönchengladbach following on Werder Bremen's 6-0 triumph over VfB Stuttgart has left the title race wide open.

Jeandupeux is new Swiss boss

THE SWISS federation (SFV) ushered in a new era by naming Daniel Jeandupeux as new national manager. At 36 he is the second youngest coach in the history of Switzerland's representative side and he was picked ahead of some other more experienced candidates.

Before the decision there had been a lot of speculation in the media as to the successor to Paul Wolfisberg who announced his resignation even before the last World Cup qualifying match with Norway.

All sorts of "wanted" star managers were put forward, names bandied about included Gilbert Gress the highly successful team chief of league leaders Xamax Neuchatel, the Germans Helmut Benthaus (Basel) and Udo Lattek (Bayern Munich) and the Austrian Ernst Happel (Hamburger SV). The hottest favourite appeared to be the German Helmuth Johannsen (St Gallen) and some even thought that Wolfisberg would stay on under different conditions.

He was reported to have said that he would remain should he be asked to do so. In the event no one had asked him and so after 50 internationals he stepped down gracefully. The Swiss scored 16 wins 20 draws and 14 defeats with a goal tally of 50-61 under "Wolf" since 1981. And there was not much of a farewell party for him when he led out the national team for the last time in Lucerne to face Norway.

The 1-1 draw was played out on a blanket of snow and the attendance of 4,500 was the second lowest in Swiss history. Only Cyprus drew a smaller crowd for an international — 3,737 saw that on November 8, 1967. Now Jeandupeux is in charge and he will be judged by the European Championship campaign in 1986-88.

Jeandupeux who speaks both German and French should have fewer problems with the often publicised alleged "gulf" between the two linguistic and racially different groups whose football philosophy is sometimes diametrically opposed.

He knows Swiss football well having played for La Chaux-de-Fonds (1962-72). FC Zurich (1972-75) winning two championship and one cup medal. in 1974 he was the league's top scorer with 22 goals. Later he played for Bordeaux in France (1975-77). He gained 36 caps before embarking on a managerial career which took him to FC Sion (1970-80, cup winner); FC Zurich (1980-83) whom he led to the championship in 1981, and Toulouse in France (1983-85).

There he fell out with the management over the terms of employment and began to sue the club for having paid him only half the money due from the contractual agreement. A settlement has since been agreed.

GERARD HOULLIER's admiration for Nantes is unfeigned. A few days before they played in Tbilisi against Spartak Moscow in the first leg of the UEFA Cup third round, he announced that he thought they were a very good team and they would win. So they did, splendidly, on the only (penalty) goal of the match. In the meantime, Houllier's Paris Saint-Germain team had rolled on at the top of the League, continuing what has been a marvellous season.

The capacity of Houllier, a former English teacher who came into professional football by a series of accidents, to get the best out of gifted but "difficult' players such as Susic and Rocheteau has had so much to do with the team's success. Peyroche, Houllier's predecessor, a very good footballer in his team, a master of renown, but something of a prickly customer, hadn't anything like the happy rapport with his men. Houllier says, with a smile, that the more complicated things are, the more Susic likes it. Certainly the Yugoslav international has this season been showing a consistency he notably lacked in previous Parisian seasons.

Houllier's enthusiasm for his men is effervescent and unfeigned. He is especially pleased with his left back Lowitz, a player of mixed Polish and African origin, discarded by Toulouse as an outside-left. So it was especially satisfying for Lowitz, one cold and recent night at the Parc des Princes, to play a part in the easy 3-0 defeat of Toulouse.

In parenthesis, Toulouse are a curious and somewhat unpredictable team, a team with a number of very gifted players which does not quite seem to believe in itself. Up front, for example, there is the current international Stopyra, the young centre forward who came on as a substitute in the life saving World Cup match against Yogoislavia. Six days later, at the same Parc des Princes, Toulous left him upfield with a single colleague for most of the game, fell three goals behind, belatedly woke up, and at long last decided to attack a Parisian defence which got into a good deal of trouble.

Indeed the French international goalkeeper Joel Bats, signed this season, was able to show his prowess. By severe contrast, Bergeroo, a well-known 'keeper himself, looked horribly unsafe on crosses at the other end.

Shades of the 1978 World Cup. That evening, Alberto Tarantini, Argentina's vigorously overlapping and combative, shall we say, left back in that tournament was playing as a sweeper for Toulouse against Paris; while over at Nimes, where the home team thrashed St Etienne 5-1 in a surprising Second Division match, Tarantini's World Cup Final opponent Poortvliet was playing and scoring for Nimes. Scored, by the way, with a shot which according to one over lyrical reporter, "literally crucified Castaneda," the 'keeper for Saint Etienne. Quite how a football can accomplish anything so painful and unusual was not explained.

Poortvliet was in fact the player who committed the first of Holland's 50-odd fouls that Buenos Aires afternoon, in the very first minute of the World Cup Final. Outstanding that recent evening for Nimes was the little left winger Perez with whom St Etienne could do nothing at all. He scored three times against them.

Returning to Calude Lowitz, it was fortunate for Paris S-G that he should return from two months' absence through injury at the very time when their expensive new international full-back, Bibard, dropped out for a cartilage operation. Cartilage was Lowitz's problem too. He says that his troubles have strengthened him, that when you are thrown on to your own like that, you can take stock and, fighting through, increase your morale. Philosophical way to look at things. Especially when you have done so well at the start of the season that people have been suggesting you for the international team for which your colleagues Bibard and Bats play.

Lowitz, who has also played in his time for Metz, says modestly that in those first ten matches he was simply one of a *team* which was playing so well. He is polite about all his previous managers, not least Cahuzac who launched him with Toulouse, he admits, a little while before he was truly

Soviets sob

compiled by Terry Bushell

A SOVIET second division club which, after a disappointing home result forced the referee and linesmen to take medical tests to prove they were sober, faces expulsion from the league.

Players of the Armenian side Kotaik abused the referee throughout the match and then club officials accused him of being drunk.

The federation immediately asked the national sports committee to expel Kotaik, who come from the town of Abovyan, just up the road from the Armenian capital Yerevan. Their opponents were Kolos Nikopol, who three years ago only missed out by one place promotion to the Supreme League.

The federation has already banned Kotaik player Gyegam Edigaryan *sine die* and supended team-mate Aram Parsadanyan for a year. It has also stripped the league's official observer at the match of his post for failing to ensure order was maintained.

Kotaik players hurled insults and threats at the match officials and trouble broke out among spectators. The enforced medical tests showed no trace of alcohol.

The federation also called for tougher punishment for Zenit Leningrad player Sergei Vedeneyev, who was sent off in the European Cup tie with Finland's Kuusysi Lahti for throwing a punch. This was after he had already been banned by UEFA for eight games.

New champions Dynamo Kiev concluded their league programme with two successive defeats but still finished top with 48 points from 34 matches. It is their 11th championship success in 25 years. In the final match they lost 2-1 at middle-of-the-table Torpedo Kutaisi.

Moscow Spartak thrashed Zhalgiris Vilnius 4-1 in Spartak's Lenin Stadium to land the runners-up spot two points behind, and 1983 champions Dnepr came third.

Dnepr's last match was a 3-3 home draw with Moscow Torpedo for which they got no point, as it was their 11th draw of the season and in the Supreme League points are not awarded for draws after a side's tenth draw. Dnepr striker Oleg Protasov was the top scorer in the league this season with 35 goals, breaking Nikita Simonyan's 35-year-old record of 34. Protasov scored four hat-tricks.

The two relegated clubs, SKA Rostov and Fakel Voronezh, met in Rostov on the last day with their fates already sealed. Fakel won 2-1 but stood no chance of catching Neftchi Baku and avoiding the drop. Fakel have spent only one season in the top flight, Rostov only two. Second division sides always find it exceptionally hard adjusting to the higher standard of the Supreme League.

In an experiment, the Supreme League is being reduced from 18 sides to 16 for the next three years, and the teams finishing third and fourth from bottom — Neftchi and Chernomorets Odessa — were meeting the top two sides from the second division to decide which of them will play in the top flight next year.

BULGARIA

THREE former top officials of the Bulgarian FA have been jailed, two of them for 18 years, for bribe-taking and embezzlement.

Former FA chairman Dimitar Nikolov and former international relations department head Docho Nanov both received 18 years, while another official, Atanas Hadjisky, got seven years.

A court found them guilty of match-fixing and hard currency manipulation, including taking bribes from Bulgarian players in return for permission to let them play in matches abroad.

This new scandal follows hard on the heels of the disbanding in the summer of the two top clubs, CSKA Sofia and Levski Spartak, life bans on five of their leading players and suspension of others, following a violent Cup Final in which players fought and threatened the referee.

The two clubs were later reformed under new names, Stredets and Vitosha respectively, with the same colours as before and most of the same players. In general, Sredets are doing better this season than Vitosha, being in third position only two points behind leaders Beroe as opposed to Vitosha already being out of the title race, but on the eve of the mid-winter break the formbook was upset.

Sredets crashed 1-0 at lowly Akademik, while Vitosha hammered Spartak Pleven 6-0 at home.

ready for the fray. He much enjoys the friendly atmosphere of Paris Saint-Germain. Created, let it be said, by Houllier. It was previously lacking.

And now, whither the French international team? At least it has got to Mexico, after those shocks in Leipzig and Sofia. How is it likely to play in Mexico? Perhaps better than you think. Its recent problems have been a lack of aerial power in defence, a lack of punch up front, an exaggerated dependence on a brilliant midfield. But if Rocheteau had a bad game against Yugoslavia, it was probably thanks to his fractured hand and his consequent anxiety about it. Since then, under the wise tutelage of Houllier, he has played some excellent games up front for Paris Saint Germain, showing the beautiful skill and the electric pace with which one associates him. But admittedly there seems to be no other striker of weight in sight.

As for Bordeaux, they haven't exactly covered themselves with glory this season, flopping out of the European Cup against moderate Fenerbache; and losing away to Lens, to the especial delight of Houllier, whose team it was till this very season, and whose player Marx, his Polish successor as manager, used to be.

Bordeaux still have the brilliant Giresse and Tigana in their midfield, and in the French midfield, but so far as Bordeaux are concerned it doesn't really seem to be enough. Note though that Giresse was missing from the match at Lens and it made an enormous differerence. We are I think entitled to expect from him, as we expect from Platini, another fine World Cup.

French referees in the wars; Robert Wurtz was savagely criticised for his officiation at the notorious game behind closed doors between Juventus and Verona in Turin when he didn't give that penalty against Juventus' centre forward Serena, who clearly handled the ball. Wurtz said Serena was pushed. Verona's manager Bagnoli said he watched it all on the video and it's nonsense.

Odd though that Wurtz, clearly insulted by Verona and Denmark striker Elkjaer at the end of the game, didn't report him.

Houllier inspires difficult players

o bering thought

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

VITKOVICE have taken over the top spot from early leaders Sigma Olomouc, consolidating their position with a decisive 3-1 home victory over Bohemians.

Sigma in fact dropped down to fourth after losing 1-0 at Tatran Presov. Second are Slavia Prague with a 2-0 home win over Sparta Irnava, and in third place are reigning champions Sparta, who trounced bottom club Inter Bratislava 5-0 at home.

Sparta are picking up after an indifferent start. This was their second 5-0 home victory in a row. The first, against Dukla Banska Bystrica, was not as one-sided as it sounds.

Banska played their part in an entertaining match watched by 6,000 spectators, a good crowd by Czechoslovak standards. Peter Novak opened the scoring in the 14th minute with a spectacular diving header; Jan Berger then scored from two penalties in the space of three minutes; five minutes later Novak scored his second; and Calta wrapped it up with 22 minutes to go.

Slavia kept up among the leaders with a 1-0 win at struggling Banik Ostrava, the goal being scored dramatically in injury time by midfielder Takac.

Two famous old established clubs, Banik and Inter, occupy the relegation zone, while a club playing for the first time in the top flight, Dunajska Streda, are holding their own in the middle of the table. A 1-0 home victory over Cheb was followed by a goalless draw at Lokomotiva Kosice.

RUMANIA

AFTER 15 matches, champions Steaua Bucharest head the table with 25 points, increasing their lead with a comprehensive 6-0 home thrashing of Brasov.

Second-placed Sportul Studentesc slipped behind with an exciting 4-3 defeat at Corvinul Hunedoara.

POLAND

WIDZEW Lodz still lead despite a 2-0 defeat at Slask Wroclaw.

The previous week they hammered Gornik Walbrzych 6-1 at home. Legia Warsaw closed the gap to one point with a 1-0 home win over Slask followed by a 1-1 draw at LKS Lodz.

ALBANIA

CHAMPIONS 17 Nëntori went on a goal spree in the opening matches of this season, scoring 22 in seven games.

Among their results were home thrashings of Partizani (7-3), Apollonia (6-0) and Naftëtari (5-1).

Top scorer in the league was Nëntori striker Kola, with seven, while his fellow Nëntori strikers Minga and Muca had both scored five.

Dinamo Tirana and Cupholders Flamurtari are keeping up the challenge for the league title however. Flamurtari achieved a notable 4-1 away victory, beating Shkëndia in the capital Tirana, the goals coming from strikers Ruci and Bubeqi, who each scored twice.

YUGOSLAVIA

RED STAR Belgrade and Partizan shared the lead after 15 matches, with 23 points.

Velez Mostar were third but a long way behind, four points adrift, despite an impressive 2-1 victory at Zeljeznicar Sarajevo.

HUNGARY

THE league went into its mid-winter break with Honved four points clear at the top.

They had 29 points from 19 matches, with Pecs in second place and Raba Eto a further three points behind them.

EAST GERMANY

INEVITABLY, Dynamo Berlin and Dynamo Dresden head the Oberliga, though their lead was cut when they both lost away on the same day.

Leaders Berlin lost 2-1 at struggling Vorwaerts while Dresden were crashing 2-0 at third-placed Carl Zeiss Jena.

Stahl Brandenburg kept in touch with the leaders with a 3-1 victory at Sachsenring Zwichau.

WORLD SOCCER, JANUARY 1986

Scandinavian Review

Edited by Robert Alexander
Contributions from Jim Holden, Pentti Hietanen and Kare Torgrimsen

THE MOST momentous season in Scandinavia since Sweden lost to Brazil in the 1958 World Cup Final ended with record domestic crowds and World Cup heroics.

Denmark became the only Scandinavian nation to qualify for Mexico when they reeled off a 5-1 win in Oslo against Norway and then beat the Republic of Ireland 4-1 in Dublin to finish on top of European group six . . . a heroic effort.

The Danes had failed to score in their three previous matches before facing Norway and when they trailed 1-0 at half-time in the Ulleval Stadium it appeared they might be facing a nightmare.

But a sizzling second-half recovery inspired by the effervescent Michael Laudrup saw them score five goals to set up qualification and end Norway's own Mexican dream.

Sweden's campaign ended the same night when they lost 2-1 in Prague and it is little consolation to them that they, along with Norway, have enjoyed a remarkable resurgence this year.

Norway's success has been reflected in the tremendous crowds that have been drawn to their domestic league games — an all-time record 28,500 filling the Lerkendal Stadium in Trondheim to see Rosenborg lift the title with a 1-0 win over Lillestrom and another remarkable crowd (by Norwegian standards) of 18,500 seeing Lillestrom gain their compensation by winning the Cup final with a 4-1 victory over Valengeren.

The crowds have been big in Sweden and Denmark too and in Finland 8,718 saw Ilves Tampere win their second leg of the play-off final for the league title against HJK Helsinki.

DENMARK

BUT to begin — Denmark, European Championship semi-finalists in 1984 and now World Cup qualifiers with a hopeful domestic scene in spite of the continuing exodus of their star players to the big clubs in West Germany, Italy and England.

Sepp Piontek has developed a superb Danish team and it is their first qualification for the World Cup finals. The Italian-based striking partnership of Michael Laudrup of Juventus and Preben Elkjaer of Verona is arguably the best in Europe.

In midfield, Soeren Lerby, Frank Arnesen and Klaus Berggreen makes the team's "contra" tactics succeed with high skill levels and a tremendous work-rate.

Meanwhile, in defence, Morten Olsen, now 36, continues to prove he is the master — hard, elegant and unflappable. His contribution continues to be vital to a team that has now been maturing together for six years.

Six of the team have more than 40 caps while the other five regulars have all played more than 25 international matches. And with such experienced men as Allan Simonsen still very much in the reckoning, the Danes will be a forceful squad to be reckoned with in Mexico.

Although the Danish domestic season did not equal in drama or excitement the achievements of its national team, it did throw up a compelling story of its own . . . the incredible rise and triumph of Broendby.

Ten years ago, Broendby were a non-league club with little history of honour behind them. Then Danish international Finn Laudrup joined them in the twilight of his distinguished career and he sparked a remarkable rise.

Broendby climbed through the divisions to reach the top with Finn's son Michael playing a starring role until he was transferred to Juventus via Lazio.

The local council built a fine new stadium which housed 5,610 fans when Broendby beat Koege 2-1 to clinch the title with three games in hand. Claus Nielsen scored the winning goal 10 minutes from time to cap a wonderful personal season.

Nielsen hit 15 goals in the league and three goals in two games for Denmark's under-21 team to help them win their group and thus qualify for the European under-21 quarter-finals.

But surely it can only be a matter of time before he, like Elkjaer, Laudrup, Lerby and Olsen, is drawn away from Denmark by the player drain that has been worrying the Danish soccer establishment.

The loss of so many stars in recent years has aroused the attentions of the Danish press who have accused the Danish league clubs of shortsightedness and selfishness in selling players and ruining Danish football at home.

DBU President Carl Nielsen has warned — "Clubs must consider whether they are cutting their own throats by their actions". But his warning has been seemingly ignored, judging by the number of young players who have left Denmark since June (see panel).

Unfortunately, the truth is that — in spite of international success — the clubs are in the red and are selling to balance the books.

Nielsen said: "Of course, it is a many-sided thing. But I am very worried about what I have seen in the last few months. Really, it is a matter of where the players go. For those who go to a club of high international standard and are potential national team material, it is all very fine.

"And it is very good for the national team which we all want to see doing well. But it is the average players going to average clubs which is worrying."

Nielsen went on: "They are not superstars, but they are bright individuals of the Danish league. We would prefer it if they stayed at home. Clubs must consider whether they are cutting their own throats by selling players like this because there are other sports the public will pay to watch if the football at home gets worse."

Some of the clubs have retorted that the DBU's criticism is like the pot calling the kettle black. They point out that almost all the national team play abroad and that home-based players, apart from Ole Qvist and John Sivebaeck, who both want to leave anyway, are not picked. They say that does not attract fans to matches in Denmark as none of the fans' heroes will be playing.

But Nielsen has replied to that: "Clubs can't criticise the DBU and the national team staff for not picking home-based players when they are continually selling their stars."

It is, of course, a chicken and egg situation.

Since the transfer of Michael Laudrup in 1983, part-time wages have become the norm in the Danish League and the incentive to leave has not been so great. But now, some clubs are struggling to keep up the payments and have been forced to sell their stars.

AGF Aarhus, for example, have consistently been at, or near, the top in Denmark for several seasons with one of the country's top average gates. But they have sold Morten Donnerup, 25, to Racing Santander of Spain and Henrik Mortensen, 17, to Anderlecht.

AGF's John Amidesen said: "The situation is totally stupid. We introduced paid football to stop the exodus of players, but it is worse than ever now.

"And I admit that I look forward to the time when I have a player with the potential to go abroad, when we can decide who he is going to sign a contract with and how much we will get."

NORWAY

WHILE Danish soccer is grappling with its problems at home and enjoying the limelight internationally, exactly the reverse has been the case in Norway where the domestic season ended with two dramatic matches in front of big crowds and a move to increase the size of the league from 12 to 14 clubs.

The final day drama came in the visit of then leaders Lillestrom to Rosenborg, who were a point behind with 31 points. A total of 28,516 spectators paid for entry. A further 2,000 fans had complimentary tickets. The total gate was more than 30,500.

After an even first half, the tempo increased and the stadium erupted in the 65th minute when Steinar Nilssen pumped a high cross into the Lillestrom goalmouth and Trond Sollied headed what proved to be the winning goal past Arne Amundsen.

It was a remarkable personal triumph for Sollied. For the third year running he collected a League Champions' medal. He had won the title with Valerengen in 1983 and 1984. Lillestrom had led from the opening day of the season.

Rosenborg, strangely, had been required to change trainers in mid-season when Bjorn Hansen resigned and two former players Arne Dokken, once a Norwegian international, and Harald Sunde took over.

It was a great disappointment for Lillestrom, trained by Norwegian soccer legend Tom Lund. At one time they had led by five points, but Rosenborg took 17 out of a possible 18 points in the run-in.

Rosenborg's average crowd at home was 10,322 — the highest in Norway. They were obviously pleased to see their team win the club's fourth league title once Dokken had worked hard to overcome problems of mid-season indiscipline.

For Lillestrom, there was the Cup for consolation. They beat Valengeren 4-1 in the final with striker Andre Krogstater scoring all four goals and international Vidar Davidsen replying for the previous year's champions.

Valengeren finished third in the league having lost several top players from their title-winning team the previous year.

Their new striker from Fredrikstad Jorn Andersen became the top scorer in the Norwegian league, however, with 23 goals in 22 matches.

Fast and powerful, he is already attracting the interest of top clubs particularly Werder Bremen and Nuremberg of West Germany.

Kongsvinger finished fourth, their best-ever finish, but suffered several heavy defeats and averaged a disappointing 2,851 home gate.

At the bottom, it was a dramatic struggle, with a whole cluster of teams involved in the struggle to avoid relegation and only poor EIK suffering a nightmare season.

Down among the strugglers were Bryne and Viking. Bryne, with Arne Okland returned from German and French experience, aimed high — but failed and had to be satisfied with staying up. It was a disappointment for Kent Karlsson, their trainer, who had to make do with a patched-up team due to serious and frequent injuries to his key players.

Byrne chairman Stangeland pointed at the players for blame and said the right attitude was often absent. Although 8,670 saw their final home league match, the average crowd was only 3,614.

Viking also suffered at the wrong end of the table and their final position was their worst for 20 years. Trainer Bill Foulkes was sacked following pressure from the players, but the results did not improve and only one scrambled victory in their final six matches (they lost the other five) kept them up.

Sverre Andersen took over temporarily from Foulkes, but Svein Kvia will be in charge next season. He will at least have a solid basis of support to rely on — Viking's home attendances averaged 6,100.

Moss were another struggling team who left it late to escape — they went to Molde for their final match knowing they required some form of decent result, at least a draw. As it was, Rekdal put Molde in front and Moss only equalised with five minutes to spare when Eihakk headed in a corner from veteran Geir Henaes. But Moss face qualification play-offs against Tromso and Sogndal to decide their fate.

One man who enjoyed the Norwegian season was Svein Mathison, who broke the Norwegian individual appearance record with 278 league games. He struck twice for Start against poor EIK in a 6-1 triumph to take his scoring tally to 98 goals.

But it was a sad ending for Einar Aas who was injured again in mid-season and has had to retire from top-class soccer after another attempted comeback.

EIK suffered a nightmare season and were relegated along with Brann, who always yo-yo between the first and second divisions. EIK won only two games and suffered several heavy defeats. Their last three matches drew crowds of less than 1,000.

Brann's season ended with defeat by Mjoendalen in Bergen in front of a 13,500 crowd. They lost 3-1 to make their recent record read: 1979 — relegated; 1980 — promoted; 1981 — relegated; 1982 — promoted and Cup winners; 1983 — relegated; 1984 — promoted; 1985 — relegated.

Tony Knapp will be taking over as their new trainer next season as they seek to climb back yet again. Despite a bad season, Brann's average crowd was 8,806. Remarkable for Norway. Their best player was the Icelandic goalkeeper Bjarni Sigurdsson.

Mjoendalen suffered a poor first half to the season but improved later on and scored many goals. The purchase of controversial goalkeeper Roy Amundsen turned out to be a good one. Amundsen played well and Odd Johnsen, who was involved in the Amundsen affair of 1981, showed what a quick and dangerous player he can be by scoring 18 goals.

Hamarkameratene and Stroemmen won promotion from the second division. Tromse and Sogndal and Moss play off for the third place in the first division. If Tromse are promoted they may become the most northerly first division club in the world — as far from Oslo as Rome.

FINLAND

HJK Helsinki won the title after leading from the first match of the season which they won 6-0. They were easily the best team in the country and their triumph was never in doubt. A fine 8,718 crowd saw Ilves Tampere beat them 1-0 in the first leg of the final play-off — but then HJK won the second leg 4-1 in Helsinki to make sure of the title.

Formed in 1907, HJK have now set a Finnish record of 14 title wins and they have also won the Cup three times.

Their latest league triumph was, nevertheless, a bit unexpected. The club were deprived of their two expensive close-season signings as national forwards Risto Puustinen and Ari Valvee were absent through serious injuries for most of the time.

Indeed, Valvee, the fast and straightforward, but sadly injury-prone winger signed from Sweden's Vasalund, played only one league match. And there were other injuries, too, notably to Jari Parikka.

But "Klubi" refused to give in. Their coach Jyrki Heliskoski put his faith in the youngsters and all of a sudden newcomers like stopper Erik Holmgren, tall midfielder Markku Kanerva, and winger Erkki Valla seemed to "grow up".

Heliskoski (40) is one of the new breed of Finnish coaches. Although HJK are his first "big" club, he has gained plenty of experience by working in the lower divisions and by coaching Finland's Under-21 team. Heliskoski has helped to improve the attitude of HJK's players — often accused of being lazy and lacking in fighting spirit — and says that, above all, he wants his players to be creative in matches, to think positively and to play to their individual strengths.

HJK had to fight hard in the play-off semi-finals to defeat Kemin PS, who this term were strengthened by two national players, Jukka Ikäläinen (ex-Örgryte) and Aki Lahtinen (ex-Notts County). HJK lost 2-3 in Kemi, but those two precious away goals meant that they needed only a 1-0 win at home to go through. This was duly achieved when Dahllund scored directly from a corner-kick for the only goal of the game.

In the final, HJK met Ilves, who had proved too strong for TPS Turku, winning 4-2 on aggregate. Ilves were somewhat lucky to win 1-0 in Tampere, where HJK piled on the pressure but failed to take their chances.

In the second-leg in Helsinki, the home side had a dream start when the goalkeeper of Ilves upended Kanerva in the box and Rantanen shot home from the spot. But, in the dying seconds of the first half, a disaster struck. Niinimäki somehow managed to stop a high, hopeful punt into the penalty-area and with HJK's defence all at sea, Hjelm stole in to beat Palmroos with a firm close-range header.

Ilves were now back in the saddle and HJK needed two more goals to win the championship.

Their task seemed desperate, but coach Heliskoski had other ideas. He took a gamble and sent on two attacking substitutes, Valla and Parikka, early in the second half.

This clearly did the trick. At first Terry Lee, an Englishman from Arsenal's reserves, broke free to score and only seconds later Valla hit a shot that seemed to wriggle its way into the net through a mass of

● *Continued on page 43*

Danish players transferred abroad since June.

Henrik Larsen	Nørresundby — SV Hamburg
Kim Vilfort	Frem — Lille
Johnny Hansen	Hvidovre — Sturm Graz
Bent Christensen	Brønshøj — Servette
Mogens Jørgensen	AAB — Holsten Kiel
Jesper Bo Petersen	Naestved — Coruna
John Hansen	Naestved — Epa, Cyprus
Lars Lunde	Brøndby — Young Boys
Kim Christofte	Brøndby — FC Wettingen
Peter Enevoldsen	AAB — Borussia Moenchengladbach
Morten Donnerup	AGF — Racing Santander
Henrik Mortensen	AGF — Anderlecht

Örgryte two years early!

from PENTTI HIETANEN

AFTER 57 barren years Örgryte IS, of Gothenburg, are the champions of Sweden.

In the play-off finals they defeated their local rivals IFK Gothenburg 6-5 on aggregate to clinch their 12th championship and to equal the Swedish record for league titles, held by Malmö FF. ÖIS also prevented IFK from making it four championships in a row. IFK have won the Swedish league on 11 occasions.

Although Örgryte will be more than happy with their present status, in a way their success came earlier than had been planned. The club, one of the classic names of the Swedish game, will celebrate their centenary in 1987 and had hoped to celebrate it by winning the league in that year.

Of course, it is possible they could do it then, too, and in any case Örgryte's victory brought a welcome change to the normal routine. It also showed to the other first division clubs that IFK Gothenburg are not invincible. The general feeling has been very much as in England last season, when Everton won the league ahead of Liverpool. Even some of IFK's players admitted later that perhaps it was good for the game that their domination was at least temporarily broken.

The play-off matches produced some extraordinary results, although Örgryte were always going to be too strong for Kalmar FF, winning 6-2 on aggregate in the semi-finals, Kalmar were, however, among the bright spots of the season and their bold tactics, employing a 3-5-2 formation, were at least unpredictable, if not always safe.

The other semi-final paring of IFK and Malmö FF was an open affair and, after IFK had won only 2-1 at home it looked as if MFF would be in with a chance. But, in front of their own fans, the sky-blues were let down by their nerves and the defending champions snatched a comfortable 2-0 win through goals by national forward Stefan Pettersson.

The final between ÖIS and IFK had to be a dream climax to the season. The derby matches between these two clubs have always been something special. Indeed, the Swedish record league attendances of 52,194 derives from a match between these two clubs in 1959.

IFK started as clear favourites but their reputation was soon forgotten when Örgryte thrashed them 4-2 in the first leg, at Nya Ullevi, with midfielder Sören Börjesson scoring twice.

The second leg, watched by a crowd of 38,500, was 1-1 at half time, but when Hellström soared high to head Örgryte ahead once more, IFK looked like a spent force.

However, they crept back into the game and, in the end, came agonisingly close to pulling back the overall deficit of three goals. IFK clearly caught new wind in their sails when big stopper Peter Larsson stormed up like an express train and let fly with a shot that beat goalkeeper Andersson from 30 yards. Then the fast Pettersson evaded an offside trap to break through and coolly round the goalkeeper.

The blue-and-whites were leading 3-2 and there seemed to be just enough time for them to score the fourth goal and to force an extra time. But it never came. IFK threw everything into an all-out attack but Örgryte's defence, robustly marshalled by veteran stopper Conny Karlsson, had learned their lesson and prevented IFK's dangerous wing-raiders Tommy Holmgren and Ronny Nilsson from advancing to the bye-line and sending in crosses for Torbjörn Nilsson and Stefan Pettersson.

Örgryte were visibly tiring but they were in no mood to surrender and bravely hung on to their slender lead.

Örgryte, whose colours are red and blue, have always been a bit different to their neighbours. Whereas IFK have become famous for their professionalism, Örgryte are known as extroverts. A club for artists, if you like, but not one apparently to collect titles.

Örgryte's present coach is Agne Simonsson, a former national forward, who played his career in Sweden for ÖIS. Simonssen, 50, represented Sweden in their own World Cup finals of 1958 and scored in the 2-5 final defeat to Brazil. His greatest claim to fame is, however, his two-goal performance in the Swedes' classic 3-2 success over England at Wembley in 1959. Agne scored 26 goals in 51 full international outings for Sweden, which is still the national team's second-best goals' total only to the great Gunnar Nordahl.

Simonsson was snapped up by Real Madrid in 1960 but now says that he would perhaps have made a wiser move had he joined some other club instead of the great Real of Puskas and Di Stefano. In 1964, after a stint with Real Sociedad, Simonsson returned to Sweden to wind-up his playing career with his beloved Örgryte.

Contrary to their former policy, Örgryte made two expensive signings before the start of this season. Striker Jan Hellström (25) was bought from IFK Norrköping for £50,000, while stopper Conny Karlsson (32/4 caps) was tempted after a successful spell in Canada with Toronto. Hellström, currently viewed by some Greek clubs, became the club's top scorer in the league with 13 goals, whereas Karlsson was a tower of strength in defence.

Karlsson played for IFK in their UEFA Cup-winning season in 1981-82 and his twin brother, Jerry, is still a midfielder in the rivals camp.

Coach Simonsson says that one of Örgryte's main strengths is their ability to break quickly from defence into attack. In midfield, the hard-working Gunnar Samuelsson (27/1 cap) had a consistent season. He was signed from a third division club a couple of seasons ago and won his sole cap in the 0-1 home defeat to Denmark in June, 1984. The inventive, ball-playing Sören Börjesson (29/5) also shone. He has been at the club since 1972 and his father also played for Örgryte in the 1960s.

Up-front, the incisive Hellström was aided by Glenn Martindahl (30/2), who previously played for Åtvidaberg.

Örgryte's defence is very experienced with Karlsson, Hans Berndtsson (29/5 full caps), Dennis Olsson (28) and Kalle Engqvist (25). The agile goalkeeper Sven Andersson (22) has represented Sweden 25 times at the under-21 and looks set to rival Öster's Thomas Ravelli for a place in the full international side.

While Gothenburg can rightfully claim to be the footballing capital of Sweden, for Stockholm it was a bleak season as neither AIK nor Hammarby could reach the play-offs. Stockholm fans can, however, draw comfort from the fact that the biggest city of the country will be represented by three clubs in the first division next year, for Djurgården at last clinched the promotion after four years of trying. They beat GAIS Gothenburg — but only after a penalty competition! They will be joined by Elfsborg — where former Stoke defender Alan Dodd was a success — who wiped aside the revived Västeras Sk 8-2 on aggregate.

But thrilling as most of the play-off matches were, the biggest upset was provided by the Swedish federation when announcing the successor to the retiring national coach Lars Arnesson. The local press brought forward at least 20 coaches whom they thought could be potential candidates for the post — yet Olle Nordin's name did not figure in any of the lists!

Nordin is a former national midfielder, who spent his playing career with Norrköping and IFK Gothenburg and won 19 full caps in 1970-79, before retiring from playing in 1980 because of a knee injury. He has been a coach at IFK and at Våstra Frölunda, of the second division, but has spent the past two seasons in Norway with league champions Valerengen IF.

Nordin has a tough task ahead in trying to rebuild the national team because several of Arnesson's "old guard" have already said that they don't wish to continue at the full international level now that Sweden are out of the World Cup.

Among the players likely to quit the national side are captain and right-back Ingemar Erlandsson (28), left-back Stig Fredriksson (29), forwards Torbjörn Nilsson (31) and Jan Svensson (30) and goalkeeper Thomas Wernerssen (31). Also Sören Börjesson, of champions Örgryte IS, said that he did not have time to play in Sweden's last World Cup tie in Malta because of studies.

MATS GREN (21) had a sensational start to his professional career for Grasshoppers by scoring four goals in a Swiss Cup-tie versus Young Boys Zurich (GC won 5-2). Gren had arrived in Zurich only 46 hours before the match from Istanbul, where he had watched his former club IFK Gothenburg lose 1-2 to Fenerbahce. "The marking in Switzerland is tougher than in Sweden but once you get past your marker there is more room to operate," Gren commented after the game.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT tried in vain to sign Sweden's under-21 midfielder Anders Limpar (20) from Brommapojkarna, of the second division. Limpar, Sweden's hottest property, thought he would be too young to play in the Bundesliga and is having talks with Stockholm's first division clubs instead.

No holding Barcelona

DUNCAN SHAW reports

THE REASON may be the return of Schuster and Archibald, or the gathering momentum of the Barcelona '92 Olympic campaign, or perhaps even the change in the weather. But, whatever the reason, suddenly there's simply no holding Terry Venabls's team.

After a shabby start, Barça have dramatically rediscovered the swashbuckling, supremely confident style that made them virtually untouchable last season. The salient facts of the Catalan recovery are:

★ Just one point dropped in a run of eight league matches, bringing them temporarily within one point of leaders Real Madrid.

★ A crucial 2-0 home victory over Real Madrid.

★ A 5-1 away crushing of John Toshack's Real Sociedad.

★ A place in the Champions' Cup quarter-finals.

The return leg of the Champions' Cup-tie with Iberian rivals FC Porto may well prove to be the turning point of Barcelona's season. A 2-0 lead from the first leg disappeared in the space of three minutes after the interval, with Porto's pacey Brazilian Juary twice puncturing a suspect Barca defence.

But, unlike on so many other occasions in the past, the Catalans this time refused to loose their cool, and went forward in search of the crucial away goal. This achieved, thanks to the clinical Steve Archibald — only just back from a two-month lay-off — all thoughts then turned to the imminent visits of Real Madrid to the Nou Camp.

Just three nights later, Madrid duly ran out to their usual hostile reception from a capacity 120,000 crowd — this is one game that will always sell, even though it was going out live on TV — as unbeaten league leaders after 10 rounds.

But any hopes that the Madridistas may have held about maintaining their record were dashed after only 50 seconds, when Marcos glanced home a perfect Carassco centre. Madrid struggled to get back on terms, but talented midfielders Gallego and Michel were hustled and harried into countless mistakes, so much so that Sanchez and Butragueno hardly got a look-in up front. Barça sealed up a significant victory mid-way through the second half, a horrendous mistake by Madrid captain Camacho letting in Calders for a simple second goal.

Barcelona were back with a vengeance, and the momentum has continued apace up to the time of writing. A 2-0 win away at Vigo — both goals falling to Archbibald — was followed by the same scoreline at home to Spain's other previously undefeated outfit, Gijon.

Again, as with Madrid victory two weeks earlier, a first-minute goal set Barça on their way, this time converted by Clos. Bernd Schuster turned in a masterful display in the 3-1 defeat of Las Palmas, and he maintained this superb standard for the sensational 5-1 thrashing of Real Sociedad in San Sebastian.

Spanish football hasn't seen a clash of British-coached teams since 1971, with Barça then under the guidance of Vic Buckingham and Bilbao under Ronnie Allen. Venables emerged as the clear winner on this occasion but, to be fair, John Toshack's injury problems were huge.

from Hasan Cemali

TROUBLE in Turkey — at least for champions Fenerbahce. The first team squad of 16 got together to make a public protest to the club over the failure to pay a total of £170,000 owed in signing-on fees and bonuses.

Forward Zafer, for example, from Eskisehirspor, claims he was due £90,000 as his cut of his tranfer fee even though he has played only twice in the league line-up this season and clearly stands little chance of ousting any of Selcuk, Ilyas or Senol up front, unless one is injured.

Zafer says: "If we are not paid we will even take the club to court. Fenerbahce have paid me only a fraction of the money they owe. I feel silly, wandering around with my pockets empty."

National goalkeeper Yasar is another player who claims he is broke. His claim is for £18,000 plus bonuses. He says: "I am demoralised. Although this club has the highest gate receipts in the league they still avoid paying the players. They give plenty of promises, but these don't pay the bills."

Fenerbahce president, Fikret Arican, had an astonishing reply to all this. He said simply: "I have promised I shall pay the players only when they win a trophy. No title — no cash. At the moment I am not satisfied with the performance of my team."

Another man not satisfied is the club's Hungarian coach, Kalman Meszoly. He says: "I often find that, without my knowledge, training schedules are changed. I sometimes wonder who is supposed to be in charge of the team. If this continues then I shall have no alternative but to leave."

Despite all this wrangling, Fenerbahce are second in the league after 11 games, behind Eskisehirspor but with newly-promoted Black Sea side Samsunspor pressing hard.

Samsunspor are coached by Fethi Demircan, who assisted Malcolm Allison at Galatasaray in 1976-77. Demircan had a spell learning the coaching ropes some years ago at West Ham in London.

Top scorer so far this season is Sansumspor's Tanju. He scored his 16th goal so far in a 2-0 home win over Altay Izmir.

Jupp Derwall, former manager of West Germany, collected a four-match UEFA ban after incidents during Galatasaray's Cup-winners' Cup defeat by Uerdingen. Yet Galatasaray are well up in the championship race thanks to an important 1-0 away win over Trabzonspor. The only goal came from Cüneyt in the 74th minute.

FENERBAHCE have protested to UEFA and the Swedish authorities that several of their players were body-searched by customs men on their trip to Gothenburg to play IFK in the Champions' Cup. Or is that just to cover their tracks after the way they lost their tempers during the 4-0 defeat and had two players sent off?

Classified RESULTS

EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

NOVEMBER 13

Izmir — WC Euro group 3
Turkey 1 (Metin 78)
Rumania 3 (Irorgulescu 14, Coras 25, Bölöni 52
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Roth (WG).

Turkey: Ocan — Mujdat, Ismail I, Yusuf, Erdogan — Riza, Metin, Unal — Senol (Ismail II 61), Tanju, Selcuk.

Rumania: Lung — Iovan, Iorgulescu, Stefanescu, Barbulescu — Rednic, Bölöni, Klein, Hagi — Coras (Geolgau 83), Piturca (Camataru 64).

Rumania's useless victory was never in doubt once they had established their two-goal lead inside the first 25 minutes. Not that it did them any good. The sports daily paper, Sportul, said: "Rumania did all they could to put memories of the defeat by Northern Ireland behind them. But they were still left relying on somebody else — England — to get them through. Surprisingly England failed to win which was sad but could not be helped. The mathematics of football do not always end in the desired results. Both teams from the British Isles can be satisfied, though their performance calls to mind the match between West Germany and Austria in the 1982 World Cup.

Wembley — WC Euro group 3
England 0
Northern Ireland 0
Att: 70,500. **Ref:** Fredriksson (Swe).

England: Shilton — Stevens, Wright, Fenwick, Sansom — Hoddle, Wilkins, Bracewell — Lineker, Dixon, Waddle.

N Ireland: Jennings — Nicholl, O'Neill, McDonald, Donaghy — McIlroy, McCreery, Whiteside — Penny (Armstrong 59), Quinn, Stewart (Worthington 72).

The fans chanted "It's a fix," but managers Bobby Robson and Billy Bingham refuted that. Bingham pointed to the fine saves by goalkeeper Pat Jennings from Glen Hoddle in the first half and Kerry Dixon in the second. Dixon might have had a hat-trick on a night when few other England players showed much of a will to get into the penalty box. The outcome was the goalless draw which sent the Irish on to the World Cup finals in Mexico. Pat Jennings, who won his world goalkeeping record 113th cap at Wembley, will delay his retirement until after the trip to Mexico.

Dublin — WC Euro group 6
Rep. Ireland 1 (Stapleton 6)
Denmark 4 (Elkjaer 7, 76, Laudrup 44, Sivebaek 57)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Wöhrer (Aus)

Rep Ireland: McDonagh — Lawrenson, Beglin, Moran, O'Leary, Brady, McGrath, Grealish (P. Byrne 30), Cascarino, Stapleton, Sheedy (Robinson 58).

Denmark: Rasmussen — Sivebaek, Busk, M. Olsen (Arnesen 69), Nielsen, Lerby (Bertelsen 58), Molby, J. Olsen, Berggren, Elkjaer, Laudrup.

Irish manager Eoin Hand tipped Denmark as the team to watch for the World Cup after they quickly hit back from an early Stapleton strike to win the match with four thrilling goals. Preben Elkjaer hit two, Laudrup a beautiful solo and fullback Sivebaek — who had laid on two of them — got his own name of the scoresheet after a lone run across the pitch from halfway. The victory sent Denmark to the top of group six and confirmed their first-ever qualification for the World Cup finals.

Luzern — WC Euro group 6
Switzerland 1 (Matthey 54)
Norway 1 (Sundby 40)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,500. **Ref:** Ben Itzak (Isr)

Switzerland: Engle — Schällibaum, Lüdi, Egli, In-Albon, Hermann, Geiger, Matthey, Brigger, Bregy (Koller 73), Sulser (Cina 77).

Norway: Thorstvedt — Henriksen, Kojedal, Hareide, Mordt, Davidsen, Herlovsen, Ahlsen (Brandhaug 77), Sundby, Oekland (Andersen 73), Thoresen.

Switzerland needed to win by 12 clear goals in manager Paul Wolfisberg's last match in charge, and hope that Denmark lost in Dublin to stand a chance of qualifying. They never had real hopes, of course. Claudio Sulser, back at last from injury for his first game in these qualifiers, tested Erik Thorstvedt in the 28th minute. But the Norwegians went ahead in the 40th through Tom Sundby after a mistake by Heinz Lüdi. Switzerland poured forward after the interval and equalised in the 54th minute when Christian Matthey converted a Schällibaum pass to climax a move engineered by Sulser. The Swiss almost scored again two minutes later but Sulser lost his footing on the icy pitch and screwed his shot over the bar. Wolfisberg went into managerial retirement — in his home city — with a national team record of 50 matches, 16 wins, 20 draws and 14 defeats; 50 goals for, and 61 against.

NOVEMBER 16

Paris — WC Euro group 4
France 2 (Platini 2 and 70)
Yugoslavia 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Ponnet (Bel)

France: Bats — Ayache, Amoros, Le Roux, Battiston, Fernandez, Tigana, Giresse, Rocheteau (Stopyra 76), Platini, Touré.

Yugoslavia: Stojic — Miljus, Kapetanovic, Gudelj, Veremezovic, Radanovic, Stojkovic (Soro 46), Sliskovic, Bursac, Bazdarevic, Zlatko Vujovic.

European champions France had to win this match to ensure their place in the finals of the World Cup, It was THE big event in France that weekend with a sell-out crowd and hours of televlvision coverage, both before, during and after the event. Yugoslavia also had to win to stand even the slimmest hope of qualifying. And, at the end of a skilful, entertaining 90 minutes, it was a shame that only one team earned a qualification place — France, who accompany Bulgaria to Mexico.

This was the third time in three successive World Cup qualifying competitions that France have come to their last match in Paris needing a win to book their ticket. In the previous two deciders, in 1977 and 1981, skipper Michel Platini scored a vital goal in the net to the left of the main stand. Now he repeated the trick again and in the same net . . . after only two minutes 20 seconds. Veremezovic tripped Luis Fernandez just outside the penalty box; two quick-thinking dummy runs by French forwards took defenders off the goal-posts and Platini curled his free kick past the flat-footed Ranko Stojic and home for No 1. It was Platini's first goal for France for almost a year.

France are still as brilliant as ever in midfield but their strikers are a problem and the failure to quickly wrap up the game allowed the Yugoslavs — midfielder Blaz Sliskovic especially — to play some superb football. They were unlucky to be denied a penalty for a foul on Vujovic but were finally beaten when Platini hit home a left-foot shot after a quick Giresse free kick had been turned on by Touré. The expulsions of Ljubomir Radanovic (81st min) and Yvon Le Roux (84) gave a false impression of a game played in superb spirit and with great style. It says a lot for the two teams that they could play football of such quality with a referee as appalling as the Belgian, Alexis Ponnet.

Karl-Marx-Stadt — WC Euro group 4
East Germany 2 (Zötzsche 4 pen, Liebers 40)
Bulgaria 1 (Gochev 39)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Keizer (Hol)

East Germany: Müller — Kreer, Rohde, Sänger, Zötzsche — Stübner, Liebers, Pilz — Kirsten (Heun 78), Ernst (Glowatzki 78), Minge.

Bulgaria: Valov — E. Dimitrov, G. Dimitrov, Koev, Petrov — Zdravkov (Kh. Kolev 65), Zeliaskov, Gochev, Gospodinov — Kostadinov, Iskrenov (Getov 78).

East Germany had to beat Bulgaria by three clear goals and hope that France failed to beat Yugoslavia. Their match was played simultaneously and they set about their work in lively fashion. After only four minutes Uwe Zötzsche converted a penalty awarded for a foul by Emio Dimitrov on Rainer Ernst. But at the same time, the fans' transistor radios were brining news of Platini's first goal in Paris. On a snow-covered, icy pitch, the East Germans kept going but soon the conviction faded from their play. Bulgaria began to move forward and might have equalised in the 28th minute when Zötzsche fouled Iskrenov, only for Rene Müller — the German skipper — to save Rusi Gochev's penalty. In the 39th minute Gochev made amends by converting an Iskrenov pass, but immediately the Germans regained the lead thanks to a Mathias Liebers free kick. Bulgaria lost the match but their qualification was sure even before the game — not bad for a team who lost several of their star players because of suspension after a punch up in the cup final at the end of last season.

Chorzow — friendly
Poland 1 (Dziekanowski 6)
Italy 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Dochev (Bul)

Poland: Mlynarczyk — Pawlak (Przybys 30), Zmuda, Ostrowski, Wojcicki, Matysik, Buncol, Komornicki, Boniek, Dziekanowski, Smolarek (Tarasiewicz 84).

Italy: Tancredi (Galli 46) — Bergomi, Cabrini, G. Baresi, Collovati, Scirea (Trucilla 46), Massaro, Bagni, Serena, Di Gennaro, Altobelli (Vialli 78).

World Cup-holders Italy lost their second successive game but manager Enzo Bearzot was not too unhappy. After all, he does not expect to find snow in Mexico! This was Poland's first victory over Italy since the 1974 World Cup finals, provided by a powerful shot from Dariusz Dziekanowski — who hopes to repeat himself shortly when he leads Legia Warsaw against Internazionale of Milan in the third round of the UEFA Cup. On this occasion the assist came from Komornicki.

Italy came close. In the 11th minute Ostrowski cleared off the line from Cabrini; in the 13th an Altobelli free kick was tipped against the bar by goalkeeper Mlynarczyk; in the 72nd, Aldo Serena headed against the bar; and in the 79th minute an overhead shot by Bagni was pushed against the post by Mlynarczyk and cleared off the line by Buncol. For Italy the Juventus veterans Cabrini and Scirea were not as secure as usual but club-mate Serena — what a challenge, to replace Paolo Rossi for club AND country! — led the attack well and Daniele Massaro of Fiorentina was the best of the Italian midfield on a long-overdue return to international duty.

NOVEMBER 17

Munich — WC Euro group 4
West Germany 2 (Brehme 1, K. Rummenigge 87)
Czechoslovakia 2 (Novak 52, Lauda 61)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Thime (Nor)

W. Germany: Schumacher — Brehme, Briegel (Frontzek 46), K. Förster, Augenthaler, Rolff, Littbarski (Rahn 79). Allgöwer, Kögl, Thon, K. Rummenigge.

Czechoslovakia: Miglosko — Hasek, Straka, Kula, Ondra, Berger, Vizek, Chovanec, Lauda (Luhovy 74), Novak, Levy.

The lowest home attendance ever to watch West Germany turned out for this meaningless end-of-group match which emphasised only that West German team boss Franz Beckenbauer has problems of his own with the World Cup finals just around the corner. He was without strikers Klaus Allofs and Rüdi Völler as well as midfield dynamo Lothar Mathäus. Yet Germany took the lead after 40 seconds when Rummenigge touched a free kick for Andreas Brehme to fire home. The Czechs hit back in the seventh minute of the second half when Littbarski gave away the ball in midfield; Ladislav Vizek made a break and provided the equaliser for Josef Novak. A further blunder — an awful back-pass by Brehme — then gave Vladislav Lauda the chance to put the visitors ahead. It was not until three minutes from the end that Rummenigge saved the Germans from a second successive home defeat (after the 0-1 v Portugal) by scoring after Ondra had blocked a shot from newcomer Ludwig Kögl on the goal-line. England manager Bobby Robson was at both this game and the French Yugoslavia match.

Valletta — WC Euro group 2
Malta 1 (Farrugia 65)
Sweden 2 (Prytz 2, Stromberg 74)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Namoglu (Tur)

Malta: Bonello — Aquilina (Camilleri 60), Scicluna, Woods, Holland, Buttigieg, Busuttil, Vella, Gregory (Xuereb 83), Farrugia, De Giorgio.

Sweden: Wernersson — A. Ravelli, P. Larsson, Dahlqvist, Fredriksson, Eriksson, Prytz (Tord Holmgren 84), Stromberg, Sanders (L. Larsson 80), Holmqvist, Tommy Holmgren.

Another meaningless match to wind up the group — and yet another of the weekend's quick-fire goals. This one was scored by former Glasgow Rangers midfielder Robert Prytz. In the second half Malta got back on terms briefly thanks to Farrugia, but Glenn Stromberg — the best player on the pitch, who is with Italian club Atalanta — won the match for Sweden. It was a successful exit from retiring team manager Lars Arnesson after eight years. He is being succeeded by Olle Nordin.

NOVEMBER 20

Rotterdam — WC Euro play-off, 2nd leg
Holland 2 (Houtman 60, De Wit 71)
Belgium 1 (Grun 84) **HT:** 0-0.**Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Courtney (Eng)
Belgium on away goal: 2-2 agg.

Holland: Van Breukelen — Wijnstekers, Spelbos, Van de Korput (Van Loen 46), Van Tiggelen, Gullit, Rojkaard, Valke, Tahamata (Silooy 75). Houtman, De Wit.

Belgium: Pfaff — Gerets, Broos, Franky Van der Elst (Veyt 73), De Wolf, Vercauteren, Vandereycken, Leo Van der Elst (Grun 46), Clijsters, Demet, Ceulemans.

Belgium went into the match without the suspended sweeper Plessers and injured forwards Vandenbergh and De Grijse . . . and emerged with a place in the World Cup finals. Their success owed much to their tactical discipline, adaptability to the changing state of the game and sensible substitutions by manager Guy Thys.

Holland put on plenty of early pressure as expected. But the absence of suspended strikers Wim Kieft and Marco Van Basten became more clearly felt as the game went on. Ruud Gullit at one end and Frankie Vercaueteren at the other had the best first-half chances. Then Holland took the lead on the hour with a goal scored by Peter Houtman and creted by Rob De Wit. Another 12 minutes and Holland scored again: this time De Wit himself applied the finishing touch after good work by Gullit.

Belgium threw themselves back into attack. Their last chance appeared to have gone when Jan Van Breukelen made a brilliant one-hand save to keep out a Jan Ceulemans header in the 82nd minute. But, with six minutes remaining, substitute defender Georges Grun from Anderlecht headed home a cross from Eric Gerets. Belgium had won on the away goals rule and Holland, runners-up in the World Cup in 1974 and 1978, were out.

Hampden — WC Europ/Oceania play-off, 1st leg
Scotland 2 (Cooper 57, McAvennie 60)
Australia 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 60,000.**Ref:** Christov (Cz)

Scotland: Leighton — Nicol, Malpas, Souness, McLeish, Miller, Dalglish (Sharp 69), Strachan, McAvennie, Aitken, Cooper.

Australia: Greedy — Davidson, Jennings, Yankos, Radcliffe, O'Connor, Watson, Mitchell, Kosmina, Murphy, Crino.

West Ham's Frank McAvennie, top scorer in the English First division and making his Scotland debut, was the Hampden hero. It was after he had been fouled by Charlie Yankos that Davie Cooper hammered Scotland's first goal from the free kick . . . and it was McAvennie himself who scored the second three minutes later, as he converted a glancing header on from 99-cap Kenny Dalglish. Australia were outclassed in midfield and pinned in their own half for much of the game. Jim Leighton did not have a serious save to make in the first half. Scots boss Alex Ferguson said: "This gives us an outstanding chance of going to Mexico. I'm happy with 2-0. McAvennie's goal was sheer brilliance — different class."

Aussie boss Frank Arok said: "It's a good result for us. An early goal at home and we are right back in business."

Zaragoza — friendly
Spain 0
Austria 0
Att: 18,000. **Ref:** Bouillet (Fra).

Spain: Zubizarreta — Tomas, Maceda, Goicoechea, Camacho (Julio Alberto 46) — Victor (Senor 46), Michel, Gordillo (Francisco 46), Quique Setien — Rincon (Eloy 66), Butragueno.

Austria: Lindenberger — Lainer, Weber, Messlender, Degeorgi — Hörrmann (Drabits 60), Türmer, Brauneder, Polster (Steinbauer 60) — Schachner, Kern.

A night above all which Spain's new superstar, Emilio Butragueno, will want to forget. He missed a 21st-minure penalty and two other excellent chances (in the 32nd and 79th minutes) to dampen Spanish optimism over their appearance in next year's World Cup finals.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

Group 1 — Oct 16 (Krakow): **Poland 5** (Kaczmarek 10, 42, 64, Lesniak 2, Araszkiewicz 25) **Greece 1** (Nobials 57). **Oct 30** (Zamosz): **Poland 2** (Urban 56, 69) **Albania 0. Feb 26** (Chalkis): **Greece 2** (Papatheodoru 68, Dimopulos 87) **Albania 0. May 18** (Piraeus): **Greece 2** (Vlastos 6, Lukasik og 53) **Poland 1** (Lukasik 10). **May 29** (Berat): **Albania 1** (Fakja 53) **Poland 2** (Wenclewski 53, Araskiewicz 86). **Poland qualify for quarter-finals.**

Group 2 — Sept 11 (Sodertaeljie): **Sweden 1** (P. Larsson 44) **Portugal 1** (Caetano 70). **Oct 13** (Pacos de Ferreia): **Portugal 0 Czechoslovakia 1** (Kuklik 87). **Oct 16** (Münster): **West Germany 1** (Thon 34) **Sweden 0. Nov 13** (Montijo): **Portugal 0 Sweden 1** (R. Nilsson 84). **Feb 23** (Lisbon): **Portugal 2** (Jorge Silva 17 and 80) **West Germany 1** (Foda 78 pen). **Apr 30** (Mlada Boleslav): **Czechoslovakia 1** (Skuhravy 9) **W. Germany 1** (Funkel 18). **Jun 4** (Enkoeping): **Sweden 1** (Turesson 89) **Czechoslovakia 0. Sept 24** (Eskilstuna): **Sweden 2** (Svensson 26, B. Nilsson 66) **West Germany 1** (Klinsmann 68). (Vlasim): **Czechoslovakia 3** (Skoda 12, Skuhravy 47, 88) **Portugal 1** (Reinaldo 8). **Oct 15** (Karlsruhe): **W. Germany 2** (Thon 50, Eckstein 85) **Portugal 0.** (Teplice): **Czechoslovakia 0 Sweden 2** (Nilsson 52, Ekstrom 73). **Nov 16** (Regensburg): **West Germany 3** (Kuntz 2, Ekstein) **Czechoslovakia 1** (Stas). **Sweden qualify.**

Group 3 — Oct 16 (Southampton): **England 2** (Waddle 2, Dickens 80) **Finland 0. Oct 30** (Isparta): **Turkey 1 Finland 1. Nov 13** (Bursa): **Turkey 0 England 0. Apr 2** (Slatina): **Rumania 1** (Belodedici 75) **Turkey 0. Apr 30** (Brasov): **Rumania 0 England 0. May 21** (Mikkeli): **Finland 3** (Makela 10, Pakkanen 12, Lius 85) **England 1** (Dixon 55). **Jun 5** (Varkaus): **Finland 2** (Tornvall 52, Lius 85) **Rumania 2** (Vaidean 35, 75). **Aug 27** (Constanta): **Rumania 0 Finland 0. Sep 10** (Ipswich): **England 3** (S. Robson, Hodge 2) **Rumania 0. Sept 24** (Kokkola): **Finland 0 Turkey 0. Oct 14** (Bristol): **England 3** (Hodge 26, Butterworth 75, Coney 85) **Turkey 0. Nov 12** (Izmir): **Turkey 2 Rumania 2. England qualify.**

Group 4 — Sept 28 (Zrenjanin): **Yugoslavia 1** (Asanovic 26 pen) **Bulgaria 2** (Stoinov 48, Pasev 72). **Oct 19** (Halle): **East Germany 1** (Linder 37 pen) **Yugoslavia 1** (Savevski 75). **Nov 20** (Auxerre): **France 2** (Fernier 46, 81) **Bulgaria 1** (Pashev 73). **Dec 7** (Lorient): **France 1** (Buscher 73) **East Germany 1** (Krauss 31 pen). **Apr 2** (Sarajevo): **Yugoslavia 0 France 0. Apr 5** (Plovdiv): **Bulgaria 3** (Pashev 7, 11, Stoinov 61) **E. Germany 2** (Baum 82, Pastor 84). **May 1** (Plovdiv): **Bulgaria 4** (Stoinov 34, 71, Zehtinski 56, Koev 65) **France 0. Sep 11** (Karl-Marx-Stadt): **E. Germany 1** (Doll) **France 1** (Doll og). **Sept 27** (Subotica): **Yugoslavia 2** (Dukic 68, Pancev 71) **East Germany 3** (Doll 32, Glowatzky 44, Grether 88). **Nov 15** (Halle): **E. Germany 1 Bulgaria 1. Nov 16** (Reims): **France 7** (Papin 2, Paille 2, Puel, Passi, Ferrer) **Yugoslavia 0. France qualify.**

Group 5 — May 1 (Limassol): Cyprus 1 (Demosthenos 30) **Austria 1** (Streiter 49). **Jun 2** (Plovdiv): **Bulgaria 3** (Kolev 7, 16, Valikov 62) **Yugoslavia 6** (Djukic 23, 86, Cvetkovic 42, 44, Mihajlovic 55, Asanovic 71). **Sept 25** (Szombathely): **Hungary 2** (Poltar 9, Bognar 70) **Austria 0. Oct 16** (Breda): **Holland 1** (Bakker 86) **Hungary 0. Nov 13** (Krems): **Austria 0 Holland 0. Nov 17** (Pafos): **Hungary 3** (Zsinka 4, Plotar 54, 57) **Cyprus 1** (Klentanou 59). **Dec 22** (Paralimni): **Cyprus 1 Holland 3. Feb 26** (Leeuwarden): **Holland 5 Cyprus 0. Apr 2** (Vac): **Hungary 1 Cyprus 0. Apr 16** (Fürstenfeld): **Austria 1** (Keglevits 27) **Hungary 2** (Bognar 21, Plotar 49). **Apr 30** (Roosendaal): **Holland 2** (Bakker 36, Bosman 38) **Austria 1** (Steinkogler 90). **May 13** (Budapest): **Hungary 1 Holland 0. May 14** (Graz): **Austria 0, Cyprus 0. Hungary qualifying for quarter-finals.**

Group 6 — Sept 11 (Sandefjord): **Norway 3** (Jan Berg 42, Haberg 65, 88) **Switzerland 0. Sept 25** (Brondby): **Denmark 2** (Juul 16, O. B. Jensen 26) **Norway 2** (Jan Berg 65, Seland 67). **Oct 10** (Fredrikstad): **Norway 2** (Habrg 19, Seland 87) **Soviet Union 1** (Salimov 7). **Oct 16** (Neufeld/Bern): **Switzerland 1** (Zuffi 63) **Denmark 1** (Thychosen 58). **Apr 16** (Grenchen): **Switzerland 4** (Matthey 6, 40 pen, Bonvin 33, de Siebenthal 62) **Sov. Union 2** (Belanov 70 pen, Narbekovas 85). **Apr 30** (Moscow): **Sov. Union 1** (Karatiev 86) **Switzerland 0. Jun 4** (Naestved): **Denmark 1** (Larsen 81) **Soviet Union 0. Sept 24** (Moscow): **Soviet Union 2 Denmark 0. Oct 8** (Copenhagen; Hvidovre): **Denmark 4** (Bakholt, Nielsen, Olsen, Juel) **Switzerland 1** (Zuffi). **Oct 16** (Oslow): **Norway 1** (Sollied 29) **Denmark 3** (C. Nielsen 2, 51, P. Larsen 5). **Oct 29** (Moscow): **Sov. Union 2** (Karatsiev 10, Gussiev 74) **Norway 1** (Fjortoft 64). **Nov 12** (Freiburg): **Switzerland 1 Norway 1. Denmark qualify.**

Group 7 — Oct 16 (Motherwell): **Scotland 1** (R. Aitken 47) **Iceland 0. Nov 13** (Dundee): **Scotland 0 Spain 2** (Eloy, Beguristain). **Feb 26** (Cadiz): **Spain 0, Scotland 0. May 27** (Reykjavik): **Iceland 2** (Askelsson, Ragnersson) **Scotland 0. Jun 11** (Kopavogvoellur): **Iceland 0 Spain 1** (Pineda 40). **Sept 24** (Huelva): **Spain 1** (Martin Vazquez 89) **Iceland 0. Spain qualify for quarter-finals.**

Group 8 — Oct 17 (Brussels): **Belgium 5** (Desart, Thans 2, Derouck, Mergan) **Luxembourg 1** (Grimberger). **Mar 27** (Brussels): **Belgium 1** (Thans 68) **Italy 1** (Mancini 53 pen). **Apr 17** (Benevento): **Italy 5** (Baldieri 44, 62, Mancini 65, 74, Vialli 79) **Luxembourg 1** (Malget 59). **Oct 16** (Luxembourg): **Luxembourg 0 Italy 6** (De Napoli 3, Baldieri 8, 35, Mancini 44 pen, Vialli 46, 82). **Nov 20** (Luxembourg): **Luxembourg 3, Belgium 1.**

OTHER MATCHES

Nov 13 (Nis): **Radnicki 1** (Nikolic 69), **Yugoslavia 0.**

Nov 20 (Cosenza): **Italy U21 1** (Baldieri 20), **Spain U21 1** (Villa 77).

MITROPA CUP 1985

Semi-finals (in Pisa and Lucca, Italy): Pisa 1, Sigma Olomouc 0 — Rijeka 0, Debrecen 1. **3rd place:** Rijeka 3, Sigma 2. **Final:** Pisa 2, Debrecen 0. **Winners:** Pisa.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Second round, second leg (Nov 27)
Red Star 3 (Sugar 25, Nikolic 58, Durovic 84)
Lyngby (Den) 1 (Vilmar 59)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Germanakos (Gr)
Red Star 5-3 on agg

Red Star: Ljukovcan — Krivokapic, Jankovic, Miletovic, Elsner, Sugar, Nikolic, B. Durovski, Musemic, Milojevic, Mrkela (Durovic 22).

Lyngby: Poulsen — Olczyk, Sorensen, Larsen, Packness, Spangsborg (Sothenborg 53), Lyng (Nielsen 80), Schafer, F. Christensen, B. Christensen, Vilmar.

This return had been postponed for three weeks while UEFA and the Yugoslav federation sorted out the eligibility of Red Star midfielder Miralem Zjajo.

UEFA CUP

Third rnd, 1st legs (Nov 27)
Bilbao 2 (Sarabia 14, Julio Salinas 57)
Sporting Lisbon 1 (Meade 73)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 47,500. **Ref:** Daina (Swz).

Bilbao: Zubizarreta — Urquiaga, Nunez, Goicoechea, De la Fuente (Liceranzu 85) — Gallego, De Andres, Urtubi — Noriega (Julio Salinas 54), Sarabia, Argote.

Sporting: Damas — Gabriel, Morato, Venancio, Mendes — Sousa, Manuel Fernandes (Meade 64; Saucedo 89), Jaime Pacheco, Oceano, Mario Jorge — Jordao.

This game began 15 minutes late after Swiss referee Daina told the Sporting players to change their studs before the kick-off. Bilbao came out to play, found no opponents, and returned to their dressing rooms for ten minutes. Manuel Sarabia put Bilbao ahead after Sporting's veteran goalkeeper, Victor Damas, was stranded after pushing away a cross from Argote. Early in the second half substitute Julio Salinas (on for Noriega) headed in a corner by Argote. Sporting appeared sunk when veteran striker Rui Jordao was sent off in the 63rd

minute. But with 17 mins remaining, ex-Arsenal forward Raphael Meade pulled a goal back. Meade, a substitute, was himself replaced because of injury one minute from time.

Borussia Mg 5 (Mill 36, Salguero og 40, Rahn 55, 59, Lienen 83)
Real Madrid 1 (Gordillo 69)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 68,000. **Ref:** Agolin (It). Played in Düsseldorf.

Borussia: Sude — Krisp, Hannes, Bruns, Frontzeck — Herlovsen, Rahn, Borowka, Lienen — Mill, Criens (Drehsen 68).

Madrid: Ochotorena — Chendo, Maceda (Butragueno 62), Salguero, Camacho — Martin Vazquez (Santillana 66), Michel, Gallego, Gordillo — Hugo Sanchez, Valdano.

Spanish clubs don't like playing German teams — Madrid once lost 5-1 in a Champions' Cup semi-final to Hamburg — and on an icy pitch in the Düsseldorf Rheinstadion, Borussia were in charge almost all the way. Madrid have a history of great comebacks but this situation seems beyond even the current UEFA Cup-holders. Frank Mill opened the scoring, converting a pass from Criens after Ochotorena blocked a shot from Rahn. Then, five minutes before the interval, Jose Salguero put through his own goal trying to clear after a Rahn corner. In the first 14 mins of the second half Borussia underlined their control. Criens headed on a Bruns corner for Rahn to score No. 3 and then he scored again after good work by skipper Wilfried Hannes and Hans-Jörg Criens. Madrid had no option but to gamble: they took off sweeper Maceda and midfielder Martin Vazquez and sent on strikers Butraguano and Santillana. Their gamble was rewarded when Rafael Gordillo volleyed a goal. But Borussia stormed back, taking advantage of Madrid's now-weakened defence, and Ewald Lienen completed the celebrations of his 31st birthday by converting a Mill pass for Borussia's fifth goal. Right at the end Madrid had Gordillo sent off.

Dnepr 0
Hajduk Split 1 (Puchkov og 78)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Igna (Rum). Played in Krivoi Rog.

Dnepr: Krakovski — Cherednik, Vishnievsky, Puchkov, Lisenko, Shurshin (Kudrichki 77), Kuznetsov, Litovchenko, Sorokalet, Protasov, Taran (Luti 55).

Hajduk: Varvodic — Miljus, Petrovic, Gudelj, Celic, Vulic, Jerolimov, Zl. Vujovic, Sliskovic (Tipuric 46), Zoran Vujovic, Asanovic.

An own goal by Sergei Puchkov decided this game to deepen Soviet disappointment following the home defeat of Spartak Moscow in the same competition.

Dundee Utd 2 (Dodds 53, Redford 75)
Neuchatel Xamax 1 (Stielike 21)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,633. **Ref:** Van Langenhove (Bel)

Dundee Utd: Thomson — Malpas, Kirkwood, Gough, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Milne, Redford, Sturrock, Dodds.

Neuchatel: Engel — Ueffer, Thevenez, Salui, Givens, Perret, Elsner (Mottiez 70), Lüthi, Stielike, Nielsen (Jacobacci 80), Hermann.

Dundee United survived an early shock and a snowstorm to edge ahead in the second half. Neuchatel went into the lead thanks to a well-struck shot by ex-Real Madrid UEFA Cup-winner Uli Stielike. Swiss national keeper Karl Engel kept Neuchatel ahead with some fine saves before Dodds (from a Paul Sturrock pass) and Ian Redford (again with the assist from Sturrock) turned the match around.

Hammarby 2 (Per Holmberg 75, 87)
Köln 1 (Geilenkirchen 34)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 9,054. **Ref:** Ravander (Fin)

Hammarby: Skalleberg — Ramberg — Uhlback, Johansson — Vonderburg (Dennerby 10), Holmberg, Andersson, Vaattovaara — Turesson (Lundin 77), Ohlsson, Eriksson.

Köln: Schumacher — Van de Korput — Geils, Steiner, Hönerbach — Geilenkirchen, Bein (Janssen 77), Mennie, Engels — Littbarski, Allofs.

Hammarby, who beat St Mirren in the previous round, repeated the Late Show seen in Scotland. The goals in the last 15 minutes shocked the West Germans from Cologne, who thought they had the match and probably the tie, all sewn up with a Ralf Geilenkirchen goal in the 34th minute.

Internazionale 0
Legia Warsaw 0
Att: 34,000. **Ref:** Prokop (EG)

Inter: Zenga — Bergomi, Marangon, G. Baresi, Collovati, Ferri, Cucchi, Mandorlini, Altobelli, Brady, Pellegrini (Tardelli 81).

Legia: Kazimierski — Kubicki, A. Sikorski, Wdowczyk, Gawara, Buncol, Arceusz (Araszkiewicz 55), Buda, Karjs (W. Sikorski 65), Dziekanowski, Kaczmarek.

This time in the previous week, Inter had sacked coach Ilario Castagner and promoted Mario Corso, youth team coach, as caretaker. Corso was a star of Inter's world and European championship teams of the mid-1960s. But his plans were complicated by the absences through injury of West Germany's Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and right winger Pietro Fanna. In the first five minutes goalkeeper Kazimierski of Legia saved well from an Altobelli free kick and from Marangon, but gradually Inter's effort wilted. They created more chances in the second half but the best fell to Legia's Kaczmarek on the break. He shot over the bar with only goalkeeper Zenga to beat. Inter came closest in the last minute when Liam Brady hit a post with a free kick. Legia were playing the last ten minutes with ten men — they had used both substitutes when Wdowczyk was helped off after a foul tackle by Marco Tardelli

Spartak Moscow 0
Nantes 1 (Morice 77 pen)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 48,500. **Ref:** Midgley (Eng). Played in Tbilisi.

Spartak: Dassayev — Kaiumov, Novikov, B. Kuznetsov, Bubnov — E. Kuznetsov, Morozov, Gavrilov, Shavlo — Cherenkov, Sidorov (Adzholiev 62).

Nantes: Bertrand-Demanes — Ayache, Le Roux, Der Zakarian, Frankowski — Toure (Morice 65), Debotte, Burruchaga (Kombouare 84), Bracigliano, Halilhodzic, Amisse.

The snows of Moscow sent Spartak south to Tbilisi for this game but they — not unnaturally — looked far from being at home mentally. At the end of a tiring domestic season Spartak could raise few sparks and the only goal came in the 77th minute. Novikov handled an Amisse centre and substitute Morice did the rest from the penalty spot.

Waregem 1 (Veyt 65)
Milan 1 (Vordis 88)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Schmidhuber (WG)

Waregem: De Coninck — Decraye, Dekenne, Desloover, Da Silva, M. Millecamps, Gortz, Matumbo (Olmos 59), Van Baekel, Desmet, Veyt.

Milan: Terraneo — Russo, P. Maldini, Tassotti, Di Bartolomei, Galli, Icardi, Wilkins, Virdis, Rossi (Bortolazzi 84), Carotti.

Milan were without Mark Hateley, resting his injured knee and leg, and for most of the time they were on the defensive. In the 65th min Waregem scored at last when Filip Desmet gave domestic top scorer Danny Veyt the chance to beat the Milan offside trap and go round Giuliano Terraneo before scoring. Milan equalised right at the end: a Wilkins free kick was blocked by the defensive wall, but when Wilkins regained the ball and crossed, goalkeeper Wim De Coninck merely parried it and Pietro Paolo Virdis scored. His equalising follow-up was his sixth goal for Milan in Europe this campaign.

SOUTH AMERICA

WORLD CUP — South American group runners-up play-offs

October 27 — 1st legs
Paraguay (2) 3 (Hicks, Romero pen, Cabañas)
Colombia 0

Paraguay: Fernández, Torales, Delgado, Zavala, Schettina (Caceres), Romero, Nuñes, Cañete, Ferreira, Hicks, Cabañas (Guasch).

Colombia: Navarro Montoya, Polo, Prince (Ampudia), Escobar, Hoyos, Murillo, Morales, Hernandez (Valderrama), Gomes, Ortiz, Castaño. (Referee: Carlos Esposito, Argentina. Att: 60,000)
Chile (3) 4 (Aravena 2 (one pen), Rubio, Hisis)
Peru (1) 2 (Navarro)

Chile: Rojas, Garrido (Espinoza), Soto, Gomez, Hormazabal, Hisis, Neira (Leppe), Aravena, Yanez, Rubio, Puebla.

Peru: Acasuzo (Quiroga), Rojas, Diaz, Requena, Gastulo, Olaechea, Velasquez, Cueto (La Rosa), Uribe, Navarro, Barbadillo. (Referee: José Martinez, Uruguay. Att: 40,000)

November 3 — 2nd legs
Colombia (0) 2 (Angulo, Ortiz)
Paraguay (0) 1 (Ferreira)

Colombia: Navarro Montoya, Luna, Prince, Alvaro Escobar, Ambuila, Murillo, Alex Escobar, Valderrama, De Avila (Lugo), Ortiz, Castaño (Angulo).

Paraguay: Fernández, Torales, Delgado, Zabala, Schettina, Romero, Nuñes, Cañete, Ferreira, Hicks (Mendoza), Cabañas (Guasch). (Referee: Wright, Brazil. Att: 10,000)
(Paraguay won 4-2 on aggregate to qualify for play-off final)
Peru 0
Chile (0) 1 (Aravena)

Peru: Quiroga, Rojas, Requena, Duarte, Gastulo, Velasquez, Cueto (Malasquez), Uribe, Barbadillo, Navarro, Oblitas (Hirano).

Chile: Rojas, Garrido, Soto, Gomez, Hormazabal, Hisis, Leppe, Aravena, Puebla, Yanez (Espinoza), Rubio. (Referee: Cesar Coelho, Brazil. Att: 45,000)
(Chile won 5-2 on aggregate to qualify for play-off final)

November 10 (Final, 1st leg)
Paraguay (1) 3 (Cabañas 2, Delgado)
Chile 0

Paraguay: Fernández, Torales, Delgado (Caceres), Zabala, Schettina, Romero, Chilavert, Cañete, Ferreira, Hicks (Samaniego), Cabañas.

Chile: Rojas, Garrido, Soto, Gomez, Hormazabal, Leppe, Hisis, Aravena, Rubio, Letelier, Puebla. (Referee: Cesar Coeho, Brazil. Att: 35,000)

November 17 (Final, 2nd leg)
Chile (1) 2 (Rubio, Muñoz)
Paraguay (2) 2 (Schettina, Romero)

Chile: Rojas, Espinoza, Herrera (Letelier), Soto, Hormazabel, Hisis, Neira, Aravena, Yanez, Rubio (Muñoz), Puebla.

Paraguay: Fernández, Torales, Zabala, Schettina, Delgado, Cabral, Chilavert, Romero (Guasch), Cañete, Ferreira, Cabañas. (Referee: Cardellino, Uruguay. Att: 70,000)
(Paraguay won 5-2 on aggregate to qualify for World Cup finals)

SEPTEMBER 21

Mexico 0
Peru 0 (in Los Angeles, US. Att: 25,645)

OCTOBER 17

Chile (1) 1 (Neira)
Uruguay 0
Peru 0
Paraguay (1) 1 (Ferreyra)

OCTOBER 29

Chile 0
Paraguay 0

Chile: Rojas, Garrido, Herrera, Soto, Serrano, Lepe (Hisis), Dubo (Neira), Jauregui, Salgado (Muñoz), Letelier, Puebla.

Paraguay: Fernáandez, Torales, Zabala, Delgado, Schettin (Caceres), Cabral (Samaniego), Cañete (Gilaver.), Nuñez, Ferreyra, Hicks, Mendoza. (Referee: Enrique Marin. Att: 20,000)

NOVEMBER 14
Lost Angeles, US

Mexico (0) 1 (Boy)
Argentina (1) 1 (Maradona)

Mexico: Larios, Servin, Quirarte, Cruz, Trejo (Amador De los Cobos), España, Muñoz, Boy, Negrete, Hernandez (Flores), Aguirre.

Argentina: Islas, Clausen, Brown, Ruggeri, Batista, Russo, Bochini, Barbas, Maradona, Pasculli (Comas), Borghi (Dertycia). (Referee: Ed Bellion, US. Att: 42,500)

NOVEMBER 17
Puebla

Mexico (1) 1 (Aguirre)
Argentina (0) 1 (Ruggeri)

Mexico: Larios, Servin, Cruz, Quirarte, Trejo (Dominguez), Muñoz, España, Negrete, Boy, Hernandez (Flores), Aguirre.

Argentina: Islas, Cuciuffo, Brown, Ruggeri, Giusti, Batista, Trossero (Barbas), Maradona, Borghi (Pasculli), Bochini (Ponce), Almiron (Dertycia). (Referee: Meachin, Canada. Att: 47,000)

South American Club Championship (Libertadores Cup)

Semi-final group one

SEPTEMBER 26
Blooming (Bolivia) (1) 1 (D. Paniagua)
Independiente (Argentina) (0) 1 (Marangoni)

Blooming: Terrazas, Valladares, Coimbra, Otaola, Vaca, Melgar, Castillo, Hoyos (Zimmermann), R. Paiagua (Herrera), Sanchez, D. Paniagua.

Independiente: Goyen, Clausen, Villaverde, Rios, Enrique, Giusti, Marangoni, Bochini,' Escudero (Reynoso), Percudani (Merlini), Barberón. (Referee: Silva, Chile. Att: 12,000)

OCTOBER 1
Argentinos Juniors (Argentina) (0) 1 (Videla)
Blooming (Bolivia) 0

Argentinos Juniors: Vidallé, Villalba, Pavoni, Olguin, Domenech, Videla, Batista, Commisso, Casto, Borghi, Ereros.

Blooming: Terrazas, Valladares (Zimmermann), Coimbra, Otaola, N. Vaca, Melgar, Castillo, Hoyos (Herrera), D. Paniagua, Sanchez, B. Vaca. (Referee: José Martinez Bazan, Uruguay. Att: 7,000)

OCTOBER 5
Independiente (Argentina) (1) 2 (Giusti, Percudani)
Blooming (Bolivia) 0

Independiente: Goyen, Clausen, Villaverde, G. Rios, Enrique, Giusti, Marangoni, Bochini, Reynoso, Percudani (Escudero), Barberon.

Blooming: Terrazas, Valladares, Coimbra, Otaolo (Noro), N. Vaca (Revuelta), Castillo, Zimmermann, Melgar, R. Paniagua, Sanchez, B. Vaca. (Referee: Cardellino, Uruguay)

OCTOBER 10
Independiente (Argentina) (1) 1 (Percudani)
Argentinos Juniors (Argentina) (2) 2 (Videla pen, Castro)

Independiente: Goyen, Clausen, Villaverde, Rios, Enrique, Guisti, Marangoni, Bochini, Reynoso (Merlini), Percudani (Escudero), Barberon.

Argentinos Juniors: Vidallé, Villalba, Pavoni, Olguin, Domenech, Videla (Lemme), Batista, Commisso, Castro, Borghi (Pellegrini), Ereros.

Semi-final group 1 (final standings)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Argentinos Jrs (Arg)	4	2	2	0	6	4	6
Independiente (Arg)	4	1	2	1	6	5	4
Blooming (Bolivia)	4	0	2	2	2	5	2

Semi-final group two

SEPTEMBER 25
Penarol (Uruguay) (1) 2 (Herrera, Nazareno og)
Nacional (Ecuador) 0

Peñarol: Alvez, Herrera, Rotti, Perdomo, Rivero, Da Silva (Güelmo), Bossio, Odine, Silva, Zalazar, Hurtado (Viera).

Nacional: Rodriguez, Narvaez, Nazareno, Armas, Granda, Maldonado, Vera, Ron, Benitez (Valencia), Villafuerte, Baldeón. (Referee: Romero, Argentina. Att: 45,000)

SEPTEMBER 29
America (Colombia) (0) 4 (Cabañas 2, Gareca, Bataglia)
Peñarol (Uruguay) 0

America: Falcioni, Valencia, Espinosa, Viafara, Porras, Sarmiento, Gonzalez Aquino, Cabañas, Willington Ortiz, Gareca, Bataglia (Castaño).

Peñarol: Alvez, Riveros, Rotti, Perdomo, Herrera, Da Silva (sen off 48m), Bossio, Zalazar, Silva, Odine, Viera (Güelmo). (Referee: Edison Perez, Peru. Att: 40,000)

OCTOBER 2
Nacional (Ecuador))1) 2 (Mera, Villafuerte)
Peñarol (Uruguay) 0

Nacional: Rodriguez (Macias), Narvaez, Nazareno, Armas, Maldonado, Ron, Villafuerte, Granda, Baldeon, Benitez (Quiñonez), Mera.

Peñarol: Alves, Rotti, Herrera, Perdomo, Bossio, Rivera, Zalazar, Güelmo, Silva, Revetria, Hurtado. (Referee: Romualdo Arpi Filho, Brazil. Att: 50,000)

OCTOBER 6
America (Colombia) 5
Nacional (Ecuador) 0

Semi-final group two (final standings)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
America (Colombia)	4	2	1	1	10	3	5
Nacional (Ecuador)	4	2	0	2	4	7	4
Peñarol (Uruguay)	4	1	1	2	3	7	3

Final — 1st leg
OCTOBER 18
Argentinos Juniors (Argentina) (1) 1 (Commisso)
America (Colombia) 0

Argentinos Juniors: Vidallé, Villalba, Pavoni, Olguin, Domenech, Commisso, Batista, Corsi, Castro, Borghi, Ereros (Pellegrini).

America: Falcioni, Porras (Chaparro), Soto, Viafara, Valencia, Gonzalez Aquino, Cabañas, Penagos (Escobar), De Avila, Ortiz, Gareca. (Referee: Escobar, Paraguay)

OCTOBER 22
2nd leg
America (Colombia) (1) 1 (Ortiz)
Argentinos Juniors (Argentina) 0

America: Falcioni, Valencia, Soto, Viafara, Chaparro, Sarmiento, Gonzalez Aquino, Cabañas, W. Ortiz (De Avila), Gareca, Bataglia (Herrera).

Argentinos Juniors: Vidallé, Villalba, Pavoni, Olguin, Domenech, Videla, Batista, Commisso, Castro (J. Lopez), Borghi, Ereros. (Referee: Felix, Brazil. Att: 50,000)

OCTOBER 24
Play-off (in Asunción, Paraguay)
Argentinos Juniors (Argentina) (1) 1 and 5 pens (Commisso, pens: Olguin, Batista, Pavoni, Borghi, Videla)
America (Colombia) (1) 1 and 4 pens (Gareca, pens: Gareca, Cabañas, Herrera, Soto)

Argentinos Juniors: Vidallé, Villalba, Pellegrini, Pavoni, Domenech, Olguin, Batista, Corsi, Commisso, Borghi, Videla.

America: Falcioni, Valencia, Soto, Viafara, Chaparro, Sarmiento, Gonzalez Aquino, Cabañas, W. Ortiz, Gareca, Bataglia. (Referee: Hernan Silva, Chile)

OCEANIA

SEPTEMBER 23
Australia B 2 (Wade, Petersen)
China 0

Australia B: Banovic (Franken) — Gray (Carter), Dunn, McDowell, McCulloch, Wade-Petersen, Miranda (Kalantzis), Farina-Patikas, Arnold (Lee).

SEPTEMBER 25
Sydney
Australia B 1 (Arnold 76)
China 1 (Ma-Lin 25)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 2,793. **Ref:** Power (Aust).

Australia B: Banovic (Gibson) — Gray, McDowell, Dunn, McCulloch-Farina (Lee 70), Petersen, Miranda-Wade (Kalantzis 53), Patikas (Lane 53), Arnold.

China: Jianping-Dongding, Xiuquan, Sheng, Hongxiang-Huayan, Dong, Jun, Hullong-Lin, Qunli.

SEPTEMBER 28
Brisbane — Ampol Cup
Australia 3 (Kosmina 9, Crino 14, Watson 63)
China 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,823. **Ref:** Monteverde (Australia)

Australia: Greedy (Olver 69) — Davidson, Ratcliffe, Yankos, Jennings — Odzakov, Watson (Farina 68), Crino, Murphy — Mitchell, Kosmina.

China: Xu Jianping — Wang Gongsing, Goa Sheng, Jia Xiuquan, Lu Houngxiang — Jun Wang, Li Haugan, Duan Ju, Chen Dong — Ma Lin, Wu Qunli (Wei Kexing).

A comfortable victory for Australia over the recently re-vamped Chinese national team: almost the entire squad was scrapped after the home loss to Hong Kong ended their participation in the World Cup. The Australians gave the Chinese ball players little room and opened the scoring through captain Kosmina after Glasgow Rangers forward David Mitchell had headed the ball down. Five minutes later Crino fired in a fine shot from the edge of the box, again after good aerial work by Mitchell.

Australia dominated the match in the second period but could add only one more goal to their tally. This was scored by the diminutive Joe Watson following a run from midfield that saw him beat three opponents before cooly slotting the ball wide of the keeper. The only Chinese players to impress were

skilful midfielder Li Huagan and speedy striker Ma Lin. Australian coach Frank Arok was well pleased with the performance, but the Chinese contingent were upset at the poor showing. "There was no teamwork in our side. Our mistakes were very clear for everyone to see", Chinese coach Nian Weisi said after the game.

The Ampol Cup is an annual challenge match between the two countries. The Chinese won the innaugural event 3-2 in Peking last year.

OCTOBER 5
Auckland — WC Oceania group
New Zealand 5 (Summer 31, 51, 89, Edge 13, Walker 25)
Taiwan 1 (Sing-An 41)
HT: 3-1. **Att:** 5,192. **Ref:** Bambridge (Aust).

New Zealand: van Hattum — Mulligan, Evans, Boath (Byrne 29), Dunford — Cresswell, Summer, Cole, Edge — Turner, Walker.

Taiwan: Jen-Tsair — In-Jen, Hong-Yee, Chun-Kuei, Yao-Chuan, Dueng-Jeng, Jung-Tsung, Yung-Fu, Sing-An, Heuy-Shyong, Ming-Jen.

New Zealand could have doubled their tally against the hapless Taiwanese but for poor finishing. Sing-An Chen's goal was to be Taiwan's only score in their six group matches.

OCTOBER 8
Tel Aviv — WC Oceania group
Israel 1 (Armeli 65)
Australia 2 (Mitchell 46, Kosmina 49)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Agnolin (Italy).

Israel: Haeiv-Machness (Rosenthal), Cohen, Kirat (Shleckta), Barba-Pizanti, Turk, Sinai-Malmilian, Armeli, Ohana.

Australia: Greedy (Olver) — Davidson, Jennings, Ratcliffe, Yankos, O'Connor, Watson, Murphy, Crino-Kosmina, Mitchell. Murphy sent off.

OCTOBER 12
Christchurch — WC Oceania group
Taiwan 0
New Zealand 5 (Boath 19, Turner 32, 76, Walker 57, 65 pen)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 5,200. **Ref:** Campbell (Australia)

Taiwan: Chiou-I Chen, Shiao (H. S. Chang), Liu, Y Chang, C. Chang (You), Tsai, D. C. Duh, D. S. Duh, S. Chen, Wang.

New Zealand: Van Hattum — Mulligan, Evans, Boath, Dunford, Cresswell, Cole, Sumner (Hagan), Edge — Walker, Turner.

New Zealand went to the top of the Oceania group with their second five goal tally against Taiwan in the space of a week. As in the first encounter, New Zealand could have scored more had they taken their chances.

OCTOBER 20
Melbourne — WC Oceania group
Australia 1 (Ratcliffe 32)
Israel 1 (Cohen 46)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 27,000. **Ref:** Jose Rosa Dos Santos (Portugal)

Australia: Greedy — Yankos — Davidson, Ratcliffe, O'Connor, Jennings — Watson (Patikas 82), Odzakov, Crino — Kosmina, Mitchell.

Israel: Haviv — Kirat, Cohen, Ekhoiz, Marili — Turk (Rosenthal 69), Malmillian (Selecter 78), Pizanti, Sinai — Armeli, Ohana (sent off 65).

A rugged, but entertaining, match in which Australian keeper Terry Greedy was outstanding and the seemingly Kaiserslautern bound Ohana was sent off for gesturing crudely to the crowd. It was not one of Australia's best performances and the skilful Israelis caused early concern in the Australian defence with telling passes from midfield and searching runs from defence.

It was the hosts, however, that opened the scoring in the 32nd minute. Mitchell, Australia's best forward, had been brought down by Marili and Ratcliffe was on hand at the far post to head home the resulting free kick. But the home team were brought back to earth soon after the break. A Malmillian corner was deflected by Cohen and although Jennings seemed to clear off the line, the ball was judged to have crossed the line and a goal was given.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

ARGENTINA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
River Plate	18	12	4	2	33	12	28
Deportivo Español	18	9	6	3	23	16	24
Argentinos Juniors	18	9	5	4	14	15	23
San Lorenzo	18	8	5	5	21	14	21
FC Oeste	18	6	8	4	20	17	20
Talleres Córdoba	18	7	7	4	23	13	21
Instituto Córdoba	18	6	7	5	17	13	19
Independiente	18	9	1	8	18	15	19
Newell's Old Boys	18	6	7	5	19	17	19
Gimnasia y Esg. La Plata	18	6	7	5	14	19	19
Boca Juniors	18	6	6	6	29	26	18
Estudiantes La Plata	18	7	4	7	15	14	18
Unión Santa Fe	18	5	6	7	14	16	16
Temperley	18	4	7	7	20	28	15
Velez Sarsfield	18	4	6	8	16	25	14
Racing Cordoba	18	2	9	7	16	20	13
Platense	18	3	7	8	15	23	13
Huracán	18	2	7	9	13	24	11
Chacarita Juniors	18	3	5	10	13	26	11

Bottom relegation standings (average points obtained in last two seasons and present one — bottom two relegated): Platense 26.6; Temperley 26; Deportivo Español 24; Huracán 23.3; Chacarita Juniors 22; Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata 19.

BRAZIL

Guanabara (Rio) State League — Second round

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bangu	9	7	2	—	16	5	16
Flamengo	9	5	3	1	19	6	13
Fluminense	9	5	3	1	12	8	13
Vasco da Gama	8	5	1	2	18	6	12
America	8	4	3	1	16	8	11
Americano	9	2	5	2	7	8	9
Bonsucesso	8	4	1	3	9	18	9
Olaria	10	1	5	4	7	8	7
Goitacaz	9	1	4	4	5	9	6
Portuguesa	10	0	5	5	3	13	5
Botafogo	9	1	2	6	7	10	4
Volta Redonda	10	0	2	8	5	23	2

Sao Paulo

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sao Paulo	19	11	5	3	33	12	27
Portuguesa	19	8	8	3	20	15	24
Guarani	19	8	7	4	19	16	23
Ferroviaria	19	8	6	5	23	18	22
Palmeiras	19	7	8	4	18	12	22
XV Piracicaba	19	5	11	3	16	14	21
Juventus	19	8	4	7	18	15	20
Santos	19	7	5	7	17	19	19
Inter Limeira	19	6	7	6	21	15	19
Noroeste	19	6	7	6	12	12	19
Santo André	19	6	7	6	12	12	19
Paulista	19	6	6	7	14	17	18
Ponte Pretra	19	4	10	5	15	13	18
Corinthians	19	4	10	5	12	15	18
America	19	6	5	8	12	21	17
XV di Jaú	19	4	8	7	16	25	16
Botafogo	19	4	7	8	17	18	15
Comercial	19	4	7	8	10	19	15
Marilia	19	3	8	8	13	21	14
Sao Bento	19	3	8	8	9	17	14

Rio Grande do Sul

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gremio	9	6	2	1	27	6	14
Inter P. Alegre	9	5	3	1	16	6	13
Novo Hamburgo	9	4	2	2	8	5	10
Caxias	8	4	2	3	9	9	10
Juventude	8	3	4	1	14	8	10
Santa Cruz	9	2	6	1	7	9	10
Sao Borja	8	2	5	1	6	6	9
Brasil	9	2	4	3	5	6	8
Gaucho	8	3	1	4	9	13	7
Esportivo	9	3	1	5	5	12	7
Almoré	8	2	3	3	5	11	7
Pelotas	9	2	3	4	5	13	7
Inter S. Maria	8	1	3	4	2	6	5
Riograndense	9	1	1	7	7	18	3

URUGUAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Penarol	18	9	6	3	26	12	24
Wanderers	18	7	7	4	18	20	21
Rampla Jrs	17	7	6	4	19	12	20
Cerro	17	6	7	4	21	19	19
River Plate	18	5	9	4	19	20	19
Progreso	18	5	8	5	18	16	18
Huracan B.	17	6	6	5	20	20	18
C. Espanol	17	5	7	5	17	19	17
Danubio	17	6	3	8	27	21	15
Nacional	17	4	7	6	12	18	15
Bella Vista	18	4	7	7	15	23	15
Sud America	18	5	4	9	22	28	14
Defonsor	18	3	7	8	12	25	13

CHILE

First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cobreloa	30	16	10	4	46	19	42
Everton	30	15	10	5	31	23	40
Cobresal	30	15	9	6	49	27	39
Union Española	30	14	11	5	47	33	39
Colo Colo	30	14	10	6	46	27	38
Huachipato	30	12	11	7	28	29	35
Magallanes	30	12	8	10	36	38	32
Universidad Catolica	30	11	10	9	45	43	32
Rangers	30	11	9	10	32	29	31
Universidad de Chile	30	12	7	11	34	36	31
Union La Calera	30	9	10	11	40	40	28
Palestino	30	9	10	11	44	44	28
Deportes Iquique	30	8	11	11	32	38	27
Deportes Concepción	30	8	11	11	24	37	27
Naval	30	8	11	11	30	32	27
Audax Italiano	30	9	7	14	25	33	25
Union San Felipe	30	6	11	13	22	37	23
Deportes Arica	30	5	12	13	31	42	22
San Luis	30	3	10	17	17	38	16
O'Higgins	30	4	9	17	28	47	17

PERU

Decentralised championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Universidad Catamarja	13	10	2	1	26	11	22
Deportes Municipal	13	7	5	1	14	6	19
Alianza Lima	13	6	5	2	12	7	17
Universitario	13	7	2	4	17	12	16
Espartanos	13	4	6	3	15	8	14
Bolognesi	13	5	4	4	16	15	14
Colegio Nacional Iquitos	13	5	3	5	20	15	13
Carlos Mannucci	13	4	5	4	19	15	13
Octavio Espinosa	13	5	2	6	13	16	12
Melgar	13	3	6	4	20	13	12
Huancayo	13	4	4	5	11	10	12
La Joya	13	3	5	5	18	15	11
Sporting Cristal	13	4	3	6	19	18	11
Sport Boys	13	1	8	4	6	9	10
Asoc. Deportiva Tarma	13	3	2	8	8	21	8
Alfonso Ugarte	13	1	2	10	5	37	4

COLOMBIA

Final liguilla

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dep. Cali	4	3	0	1	12	3	9
America	4	2	1	1	7	3	6.50
Millonarios	4	2	1	1	4	2	6
Independiente	4	1	2	1	4	3	5.75
Juniors	4	1	2	1	6	8	5
Bucaramanga	4	1	1	2	4	8	5
Nacional	4	1	1	2	3	8	4.50
U. Magdalena	4	0	2	2	3	8	3

NB: Dep. Cali 3 bonus pts; Bucaramanga 2; Medellin 1.75; America and Nacional 1.50; Millionarios Juniors, Union Magdalena 1 each.

ECUADOR

Final round

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	7	6	0	1	12	2	14
Dep. Quito	7	5	0	2	13	11	11
U. Catolica	7	4	1	2	13	7	9
Filanbanco	7	3	0	4	10	6	9
Nacional	7	2	3	2	11	10	7
Esmeraldas P.	7	3	1	3	11	10	7
9 de Octubre	7	1	1	5	5	12	3
LDU Portoviejo	7	0	2	5	4	19	2

NB: Filanbanco 3 bonus pts; Barcelona 2; Dep. Quito 1.

MEXICO

Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monterrey	6	5	0	1	16	7	10
Tampico Madero	6	5	0	1	16	9	10
U.A. Guadalajara	6	3	0	3	5	11	6
Cruz Azul	6	3	0	3	8	4	6
Necaxa	6	2	1	3	9	11	5
Atlas	6	1	3	2	8	9	5
Guadalajara	6	1	3	2	12	15	5
UNAM	6	1	3	2	11	13	4
Toluca	6	1	2	3	11	16	4
Angeles	6	1	2	3	5	9	4

Group 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Potosino	6	4	1	1	10	6	9
Atlante	6	4	1	1	14	7	9
Puebla	6	2	4	0	8	4	8
Un. Guadalajara	6	2	4	0	8	5	8
Neza	6	1	5	0	6	5	7
America	6	0	6	0	5	5	6
U. Nuevo Leon	6	1	3	2	6	9	5
Morelia	6	0	4	2	4	6	4
Leon	6	1	0	5	5	10	2
Irapuato	6	1	0	5	5	12	2

BOLIVIA

Professional Championship

	P	W	D	L	Pts
The Strongest	22	15	3	4	33
Jorge Wilsterman	21	14	3	4	31
Real Santa Cruz	20	11	5	4	27
Oriente	20	11	5	4	27
Destroyers	21	10	6	5	26
Aurora	22	8	7	7	23
Bolivar	22	8	6	8	22
Petrolero	21	9	3	9	21
Blooming	21	7	6	8	20
Chaco	21	6	6	9	18
SanJosé	21	4	10	7	18
Cooperativas	20	5	6	9	16
Ciclon	22	3	10	9	16
Magisterio	22	3	10	9	16
Municipal	20	3	3	14	9

VENEZUELA

Professional Championship final round

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Estudiantes Merida	5	3	2	0	8
Tachira	5	3	1	1	7
Atletico Zamora	5	2	1	2	5
Nacional Carabobo	5	2	0	3	4
San Cristobal	5	1	1	3	3
Mineros Guayana	5	1	1	3	3

ALGERIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
JE Tizi-Ouzou	17	13	4	0	46	9	47
EP Sétif	18	9	4	5	22	8	40
MP Oran	18	8	5	5	23	12	39
Ain Belda	18	8	5	5	18	18	39
Boufarik	18	8	4	6	21	19	38
Belcourt	17	7	6	4	17	15	37
USM Harrach	18	8	3	7	25	24	37
Guelma	18	5	8	5	15	17	36
Relizane	18	5	8	5	20	25	36
Tiemcen	18	7	4	7	20	27	36
Collo	18	6	5	7	12	15	35
Annaba	18	7	3	8	23	18	34
Chief	18	5	6	7	19	23	34
Bel Abbès	18	6	4	8	28	34	34
MAHD	18	5	5	8	12	16	33
Bordj Menalel	18	4	7	7	23	30	33
JH Djazair	18	5	5	8	24	19	32
ASC Oran	16	5	4	7	17	15	30
Ain Milla	18	3	6	9	7	29	30
Mascara	16	4	2	10	19	32	26

MOROCCO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
KAC Kenitra	7	7	0	0	12	4	21
WAC Casablanca	7	4	2	1	8	4	17
Sale	7	3	2	2	8	5	15
El Jadida	7	4	0	3	5	4	15
Raja Casablanca	7	3	1	3	7	6	14
KAC Marrakech	7	3	1	3	6	4	14
MAS Fès	7	2	3	2	4	3	14
Sidi Kacem	7	1	6	0	4	3	14
Laayoune	7	3	1	3	5	5	14
Bebkane	7	2	3	2	5	4	14
FUS Rabat	7	2	3	2	3	4	14
CODM	7	1	4	2	5	6	13
US Mohammedia	7	2	2	3	7	7	13
RS Kenitra	7	2	2	3	8	11	13
FAR Rabat	5	2	3	0	3	0	12
Belksiri	7	2	1	4	5	10	12
Settat	6	1	4	1	4	4	12
Khouribga	7	1	2	4	2	9	11
Oujda	6	1	2	3	1	4	10
Chabab	7	0	2	5	2	7	9

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
17 Nentori	10	7	2	1	29	10	16
Dinamo	10	6	4	0	19	8	16
Flamurtari	10	6	2	2	20	8	14
Tomori	10	5	3	2	17	12	13
Luftetari	10	4	4	2	12	10	12
Lokomotiva	10	2	7	1	12	8	11
Vilaznia	10	4	3	3	15	12	11
Partizani	10	4	3	3	15	16	11
Apolonia	10	3	3	4	11	17	9
Labinoti	10	2	3	5	9	14	7
Traktori	10	1	4	5	8	18	6
Beselidhja	10	1	4	5	5	9	6
Naftetari	10	1	3	6	9	24	5
Shkendija	10	0	3	7	3	18	3

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria Vienna	18	16	1	1	61	9	33
Rapid Vienna	19	13	5	1	62	15	31
Sturm Graz	19	5	11	3	25	8	21
Grazer AK	19	7	5	7	32	38	19
Voest Linz	19	7	5	7	21	35	19
Linzer ASK	19	6	6	7	23	26	18
Admira Wacker	19	6	5	8	34	28	17
Austria Klagen	18	4	8	6	16	32	16
Eisenstadt	18	4	8	6	16	31	16
Innsbruck	18	5	5	8	35	39	15
Alpine	19	3	6	10	24	44	12
Salisburg	19	0	7	12	15	44	7

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bruges	15	11	2	2	37	14	24
Gand	15	8	3	4	24	13	19
Anderlecht	14	7	5	2	28	15	19
Beveren	15	8	2	5	27	24	18
Beerschot	15	6	6	3	24	21	18
Waregem	15	7	4	4	28	12	18
Standard	15	7	2	6	22	20	16
Liege	15	7	2	6	22	20	16
Cercle	15	6	4	5	25	23	16
Seraing	15	4	6	5	11	14	14
Mechelen	15	3	8	4	16	22	14
Lierse	15	4	5	6	17	18	13

Antwerp	15	4	5	6	14	21	13
Lokeren	15	4	4	7	17	26	12
Charleroi	14	4	2	8	17	23	10
Waterschel	13	3	3	7	12	27	9
RWDM	15	2	5	8	13	29	9
Kortriyk	15	1	5	9	11	26	7

CYPRUS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Omonia	8	8	0	0	21	7	16
Apoel	8	6	1	1	12	6	13
Apollon	8	5	1	2	13	6	11
Anortosi	8	5	1	2	13	9	11
Paralimni	8	4	2	2	16	12	10
Pezoporikos	8	3	2	3	11	8	8
Salamina	8	2	4	2	9	8	8
Ael	8	3	1	4	8	5	7
Olympiakos	8	3	1	4	16	20	7
Aiki	8	1	5	2	4	9	7
Apop	8	2	1	5	9	16	5
Aris	8	1	2	5	8	13	4
Epa	8	0	3	5	7	13	3
Ermis	8	0	2	6	4	17	2

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vitkovice	13	7	5	1	17	10	19
Slavia Prague	13	7	3	3	11	9	17
Sparta Prague	13	7	2	4	26	7	16
Olomouc	13	6	3	4	25	14	15
Boh. Prague	13	5	4	4	26	23	14
Cheb	13	6	1	6	22	14	13
Dukla Prague	13	5	3	5	26	19	13
Lok. Kosice	13	5	3	5	16	17	13
Presov	13	5	3	5	13	16	13
Zilina	13	5	3	5	16	22	13
Streda	13	5	3	5	11	21	13
Bystrica	13	4	4	5	15	20	12
Banik Ostrava	13	4	2	7	13	12	10
Sp. Trnava	13	3	4	6	9	14	10
Budejovice	13	4	2	7	14	22	10
Inter Bratislava	13	2	3	8	8	25	7

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Berlin	11	8	1	2	27	14	17
Dresda	10	7	1	2	21	11	15
Carl Zeiss Jena	11	5	4	2	18	8	14
Stahl Brand	11	6	1	4	14	12	13
Union Berlin	11	5	2	4	17	16	12
Lokomotiv	11	5	2	4	13	10	12
Rot Weiss	11	2	6	3	17	17	10
Karl Marx Stadt	11	3	4	4	14	16	10
Stahl Riesa	11	4	2	5	13	16	10
Hansa Rostock	11	3	3	5	17	20	9
Wismut Aue	11	3	3	5	13	19	9
Magdeburg	11	2	4	5	15	20	8
Vorwaerts	11	2	4	5	14	20	8
Sachsenring Z.	10	1	5	5	13	22	7

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd	18	13	3	2	35	10	42
Liverpool	18	12	4	2	41	17	40
Chelsea	18	11	3	4	30	19	36
West Ham	18	10	5	3	31	19	35
Sheffield	18	10	5	3	28	25	35
Everton	18	9	4	5	38	23	31
Arsenal	18	9	4	5	22	22	31
Luton	18	7	6	5	31	22	27
Queens Park R.	18	8	3	7	20	22	27
Nottingham F.	18	8	2	8	29	29	26
Newcastle	18	7	5	6	25	27	26
Tottenham	17	6	4	7	29	23	22
Watford	18	6	4	8	33	33	22
Southampton	18	5	6	7	21	25	21
Coventry	18	5	5	8	22	25	20
Aston Villa	18	4	7	7	23	25	19
Manchester C.	18	4	6	8	17	25	18
Oxford	19	4	6	9	28	38	18
Leicester	19	4	6	9	14	36	18
Birmingham	17	5	1	11	11	25	16
Ipswich	18	2	3	13	14	33	9
West Bromwich	18	1	4	13	14	43	7

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Paris S.G.	20	15	5	0	42	16	35
Nantes	21	11	7	3	27	12	29
Bordeaux	21	12	5	4	34	20	29
Lens	21	9	7	5	34	23	25
Metz	21	8	7	6	33	19	23
Nancy	21	10	3	8	32	27	23
Auxerre	21	8	7	6	23	19	23
Monaco	21	5	13	3	24	22	23
Nice	21	7	8	6	20	22	22
Laval	21	6	9	6	25	24	21
Toulouse	21	9	2	10	33	30	20
Rennes	21	7	5	9	23	27	19
Brest	21	7	4	10	25	33	18
Toulon	21	4	9	8	25	30	17
Marseille	21	5	6	10	21	27	16
Le Havre	21	5	6	10	23	32	16
Sochaux	21	4	7	10	26	37	15
Lille	20	5	5	10	17	29	15
Bastia	21	5	5	11	18	37	15
Strasburg	21	4	6	11	15	34	14

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Panathinaikos	10	7	2	1	15	5	16
Panionios	10	6	3	1	13	10	15
Larissa	10	5	4	1	13	4	14
Aris	10	6	2	2	15	1	14
AEK	10	5	3	2	15	6	13
OFI	10	4	2	4	13	13	10
Ethnikos	10	3	4	3	9	9	10
Iraklis	10	3	3	4	7	7	9
Ioannina	10	4	1	5	8	10	9
Doxa	10	3	3	4	5	8	9
Kalamaria	10	2	5	3	6	7	9
Panseralkos	10	2	4	4	12	13	8
Paok	10	3	1	6	11	13	7
Olympiakos	10	2	2	6	7	14	6
Panachaiki	10	3	1	6	7	14	4
Apollon	10	0	4	6	3	18	4

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Honved	19	12	5	2	39	19	29
Pecs	19	10	5	4	28	14	25
Raba Eto	19	6	10	3	31	25	22
Zalaegerszeg	19	6	9	4	33	25	21
Videoton	19	7	7	5	17	16	21
MTK	19	8	4	7	30	22	20
Ferencvaros	19	7	6	6	30	20	20
Ujpest	19	7	6	6	25	26	20
Tatabanya	19	5	9	5	17	17	19
Debrecen	18	5	8	5	17	27	18
Haladas	19	6	5	8	22	25	17
Vasas	19	5	6	8	21	26	16
Bekescasaba	19	5	6	8	20	25	16
Siofok	19	5	4	10	20	30	14
Volan	19	4	6	9	21	33	14
Csepel	18	4	2	12	14	26	10

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	11	9	1	1	20	6	19
Milan	11	6	2	3	10	6	14
Napoli	11	4	6	1	14	7	14
Inter	11	5	4	2	16	12	14
Fiorentina	11	4	5	2	13	7	13
Roma	11	6	1	4	14	13	13
Torino	11	5	3	3	11	8	13
Verona	11	3	4	4	12	16	10
Atlanta	11	3	4	4	9	9	10
Avellino	11	3	4	4	13	17	10
Udinese	11	1	7	3	8	11	9
Sampdoria	11	3	3	5	11	11	9
Pisa	11	2	4	5	13	19	8
Bari	11	2	4	5	7	13	8
Como	11	1	4	6	9	17	6
Lecce	11	1	4	6	8	16	6

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beggen	10	7	1	2	36	11	15
Grevenmacher	10	6	3	1	25	9	15
Spora	11	6	2	3	23	16	14
Jeunesse	10	5	3	2	18	12	13
Union	11	5	2	4	25	16	12
Alliance	10	3	5	2	12	18	11
Progres	10	3	4	3	13	15	10
Eischen	10	4	1	5	20	23	9
Hesperange	10	3	3	4	14	22	9
Red Boys	10	2

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HENNING JENSEN . . . Danish former international, who starred with Borussia Mönchengladbach, Real Madrid and Ajax Amsterdam.

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defenders. As Ilves let their heads drop, Parikka completed their misery by making it 4-1 from a cross by Lee.

But not even HJK had enough steam in them to win "the double", being beaten in the Cup final by Haka. The match itself ended in a 2-2 draw after extra time. What followed was a travesty of a penalty-kick competition, which Haka won 2-1 — after no less than eight players had missed. Haka's national goalkeeper Olli Huttunen saved three of HJK's spot-kicks.

HJK's scorers in the league were: Rantanen 15, Martonen 8, Muhonen 5, Kanerva 4, Puustinen 3, Lee 3, Linna 2, Nieminen 2, Valla 2, Schutschkoff 1, Parikka 1, Dahllund 1, an own goal 1.

Two players deserve a special mention. 34-year-old captain Jyrki Nieminen played ever so well either as left-back or as a sweeper. A calming influence in defence, he was also the main architect of HJK's constant use of the off-side trap.

In the big, burly Jari Rantanen, who scored for Finland in the 1-1 draw with England last May, HJK have a fine heading specialist. Rantanen looks set to move abroad soon and his name has been linked with Beerschot, of Belgium's first division.

In the European Cup-Winners' Cup HJK progressed to the second round by disposing of Albania's Flamurtari 5-3 on aggregate. They also gained, in the first-leg of the second round, a respectable 1-0 home win over seasoned East German competitors Dynamo Dresden.

Speaking of Europe . . . A year ago HJK launched an ambitious scheme to make a bigger impact on the international front by leaning more towards professionalism. And, indeed, the potential at the club's disposal is considerable.

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But there are problems. As many people living in the Helsinki area have moved from the inner parts of Finland during the past 10 or 15 years, they don't easily identify themselves with HJK. In 1984, HJK's average home gates were 5,139, by far the best in Finland, but not enough to satisfy the ambitious board of the club.

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27-YEAR-OLD, Nasiru Mallam Baba, wishes to correspond with pen pals from USA. Address PO Box 601, Koforidua, Ghana.

22-YEAR-OLD fan of Queens Park Rangers FC is looking for pen pals worldwide who support QPR. Write to Danuta Pakys, Niezyn 17, 78-123, Siemysl, woj. Koszalin.

18-YEAR-OLD Manchester United supporter, very interested in European football, wishes to correspond with any European. Write in English to Tony King, 125 Park Road, Prestwich, Manchester, M25 8DU.

AUSTRALIAN, New Zealand and Asian supporters of Wimbledon FC asked to join the Wimbledon Downunder Supporters' Association, members linked by newsletter of events at club. Contact Robert Smith, 1 Olive Street, Asquith, NSW 2078, Australia.

PEN PAL wanted worldwide for exchanging stamps and matchboxes. All letters answered. Paul Wong Hock Yu, PO Box 40, 89807 Beaufort, Sabah, E. Malaysia.

PEN PALS wanted from Europe by Ofori Edmond, G30 Commonwealth, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana.

26-YEAR-OLD fan of Liverpool FC wishes to correspond with Liverpool fans from England. Write to Adam Kuflowski, 46-262 Skakaei 46, woj, Opole, Poland.

PEN PALS wanted worldwide by Sam Frimpong-Manso, PO Box 1600 Sunyai, B/A, Ghana, West Africa.

COLLECTOR OF FOOTBALL statistics seeks pen friends worldwide and especially from Portugal, Yugoslavia, Rumania, Switzerland, Norway and Sweden. All letters answered. Jens Nøhr, Skovvej 3, 2750 Ballerup, Denmark.

● *Continued from page 3*

communications building and destroyed, or badly damaged, more than 20 other important telecommunication exchanges.

This is ominous news for the 5,000 members of the world's media expected in May and June. Latest reports say that international telephone lines are being restored "gradually", but the feeling among journalists based in Mexico is that the authorities will have to pull out all the stops to get things back to normal.

Television facilities, too, may be hampered by the fact that Mexico has only four video channels leaving the country towards the Atlantic Ocean region. Already there have been five applications from major world TV networks for exclusive use of any one of the channels, with another four or five expected.

The World Cup organisers are putting much faith in the country's communications satellites, Morelos I, launched earlier this year, and Morelos II, launched more recently. Experts point out, however, that there are only limited facilities on the ground in such major World Cup centres as Guadalajara, Monterrey and Leon to take full advantage of satellite capacity, and with time running out fast.

As for getting television coverage to the Pacific region, Mexico officials say that satellite systems already operating from the United States will be available. This, however, could involve a number of hops from one satellite to another, with a likely risk to the quality of television pictures.

Those many thousands of fans from all over the world ready to abandon their armchairs to make the trip to Mexico are being assured by tourism officials that they will have no difficulties in finding accommodation, especially if they come on the pre-arranged (and expensive) tour packages available, which include bed and board in top class hotels. Those who just turn up, however, may be in for a more difficult ride, at least in Mexico City where about 80 of the 280 hotels earmarked for use by visitors were either damaged or destroyed by the earthquakes.

Finally, no promises can be made about the likelihood of further earthquakes, a fear kept alive by the more than 80 tremors which have shivered their way through the Mexican capital over recent weeks.

● *Continued from page 4*

● *TOP* two in each group plus four best third-placed teams will go through to the last 16 where the schedule will be as follows (A1 means top finisher in group A, and so on):

JUNE 15 (Aztec): B1 v A3, C3 or D3 (1800). Winner will be number 8 for quarter-final schedule.

JUNE 15 (Leon): C1 v A3/B3/F3 (2200). Winner 4.

JUNE 16 (Puebla): A1 v C3/D3/E3 (2200). Winner 1.

JUNE 16 (Jalisco, Guadalajara): D1 v B3/E3/F3 (1800). Winner 5.

JUNE 17 (Olimpico, Mexico City): A2 v C2 (1800). Winner 6.

JUNE 17 (Universitario, Monterrey): F1 v E2 (2200). Winner 7.

JUNE 18 (Aztec) F2 v B2 (1800). Winner 2.

JUNE 18 (Queretaro): E1 v D2 (2200). Winner 3.

QUARTER-FINALS

JUNE 21 (Jalisco): 5 v 6 (1800). Winner C for semi-finals.

JUNE 21 (Universitario): 7 v 8 (2200). Winner D.

JUNE 22 (Puebla): 3 v 4 (2200). Winner B.

JUNE 22 (Aztec): 1 v 2 (1800). Winner A.

SEMI-FINALS

JUNE 25 (Aztec): A v B (2200).

JUNE 25 (Jalisco): C v D (1800).

THIRD PLACE

JUNE 28 (Puebla)

FINAL

JUNE 29 (Aztec), (1800)

● *Continued from page 5*

Toluca stadium, which seats 32,612 people, was opened in 1950 and remodelled for use in the 1970 World Cup. The result of the remodelling left it with the nickname, La Bombonera, or the Chocolate Box', because of the narrow margin between the pitch and seating.

LEON and IRAPUATO

Both competition sites for Group C are in Guanajuato state, the country's colonial heartland some 225 miles northwest of Mexico City. They are about 60 miles apart.

Leon, founded in 1756 and the largest city in the area, is a centre of the shoe-making industry. Irapuato is known as the City of Strawberries, and for its wood products, paper flowers and embroidery.

Leon Stadium holds 30,531 and Irapuato Stadium is being expanded to seat 31,336.

GUADALAJARA

Group D is being staged in this city, known as the Pearl of the West.

Guadalajara is Mexico's second-largest city with a population of about 3.5 million, located 360 miles northwest of the Capital.

It was founded in 1530. One of its best-known native sons is Jose Clemente Orozco, a major 20th-century muralist and painter. His workshop is now a local museum.

Guadalajara is the birthplace of the charro, or Mexican cowboy, as well as a centre of the world-famous mariachi music.

Group D will play in Jalisco stadium, seating 66,193 and the March the Third Stadium with a capacity of 30,015.

QUERETARO

Group E plays 135 miles northwest of the capital in Queretaro — which means "ball game." The city has the second most important centre of Colonial New Spain. It boasts some of the best colonial architecture, but new industrial areas on the outskirts are changing the city.

The independence uprising of 1810 was plotted here. Later Austrian-born Emperor Maximilian was shot to death outside the city on June 19, 1867. Among the top sights is the aqueduct, built in 1726.

Corregidora stadium, named after a 19th-century war heroine, was opened last year. It will be the only new stadium used for the 1986 World Cup. Group E plays here and in Nezahualcoyotl.

NEZAHUALCOYOTL

This venue also hosts some Group E games. Considered part of the Mexico City metropolitan area, Nezahualcoyotl has experienced explosive growth in the past two decades to pass the two million population mark.

With its poor population, among them hundreds of thousands of migrants from rural areas seeking jobs in the city, Neza, as it is known here, has come to symbolise the problems of modern, urban Mexico.

The Neza 86 Stadium, 12 miles from central Mexico city, was opened in August 1982. It was originally named in honour of the then president, Jose Lopez Portillo.

But Lopez Portillo's popularity slipped during the economic crisis that hit Mexico in 1982, his last year in office, and his name is no longer used for the stadium.

MONTERREY

Group F teams, Poland, Portugal, Morocco and England will have to play in hot and dry Monterrey, Mexico's third largest city with a million inhabitants.

Some 600 miles north of the capital — and closer to the US border — this industrial city is the northernmost venue.

Monterrey was established in 1596, but remained largely a waystation on the road to Texas until this century. The impetus for its development was a brewery, but later paper, steel and glass industries grew up.

Group F will play in two stadiums here. The Universitario Stadium seats 43,780 people and the Technologico Stadium holds 33,805.

DAVE COOPER (Scotland)

WORLD SOCCER

DAVE COOPER (Scotland)

PAT JENNINGS (Tottenham H. and N. Ireland)